SEIKAI TRILOGY

BANNER OF THE STARS

ORIGINAL STORY
HIROYUKI MORIOKA

COMIC AUTHOR
TOSHIHIRO ONO

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SEIKAI TRILOGY

BANNER OF THE STARS

THE SHAPE OF BONDS

VOL. 2

Original Story by
HIROYUKI MORIOKA

Manga by
Toshihiro Ono

TOKYOPOP®

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STORY SO FAR

In need of fuel, the two young officers diverted their ship to the barony of Febdash, only to become subject to the jealousy of the domain's minor noble. All too willing to use Lafiel as leverage to improve his social status, the Baron Fedbash threatened Lafiel's mission and imprisoned the young Count Hyde. In order to complete her mission, Lafiel found it necessary to escape, and in doing so killed the young Baron and freed his vassals.

Resuming course for the capital, Jinto and Lafiel were chased by the forces of their enemy, the United Mankind. In order to escape, the two fugitives crash-landed on the occupied Planet Clasbul, which was struggling to adjust to the presence of the occupying army. Trapped on the surface, Jinto and Lafiel worked together to ensure their mutual safety and escape with the ship's data logs. The harrowing experience created for them an unbreakable bond of friendship.

While Abh forces successfully liberated Clasbul from the United Mankind, Jinto's homeworld in the Hyde System fell to enemy forces. The resulting battle exhausted the military might of all sides, and both the Abh and the United Mankind turned their attention to training officers and constructing massive fleets of formidable interstellar warships.

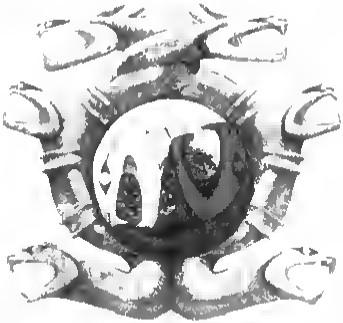
Three years have passed since Lafiel and Jinto's escape from Planet Clasbul. Lafiel is now captain of her own Assault Ship, the Basroil, and has requested the services of Jinto Lin as her supply officer.

SEIKAI TRILOGY

Count Jinto Lin of the Hyde Star System is a lander, catapulted to the status of Abh nobility in the wake of a political deal. The agreement, struck between his father, the president of Planet Martine, and the Humankind Empire Abh, transformed Jinto's life and subjected the young count to the unending consternation of his own people and the vagaries of interstellar politics.

For years, the races of humankind have resented the genetic disposition and technical superiority of the Abh—genetically enhanced humans who have blossomed into an ageless, space-faring race. As Abh dominance over galactic trade increased, the other human worlds began to form alliances to oppose the further expansion of the Abh Empire and even regain trading rights over worlds conquered by the Abh. Though genetically different from his Abh compatriots, Jinto is embroiled in their burgeoning conflict. The tension between the Humankind Empire Abh and the rest of the human worlds finally erupted into full-scale, interstellar war three years ago when the alliances attacked and destroyed the Abh Patrol Ship Gosroth.

At this time, Jinto Lin's life became entwined with that of Lafiel, the granddaughter of the Abh Empress Ramaj and a pilot trainee on the patrol ship Gosroth. Assigned to transport Jinto to Lakfakalle to continue his education at the Imperial academy, the Gosroth entered history as the first casualty of humankind's most devastating war. The attack on the Gosroth forced Lafiel to abandon ship with Jinto in the hope that she'd be able to evade the assault force and carry her charge and the Gosroth's data logs to the Imperial Capital of Lakfakelle.



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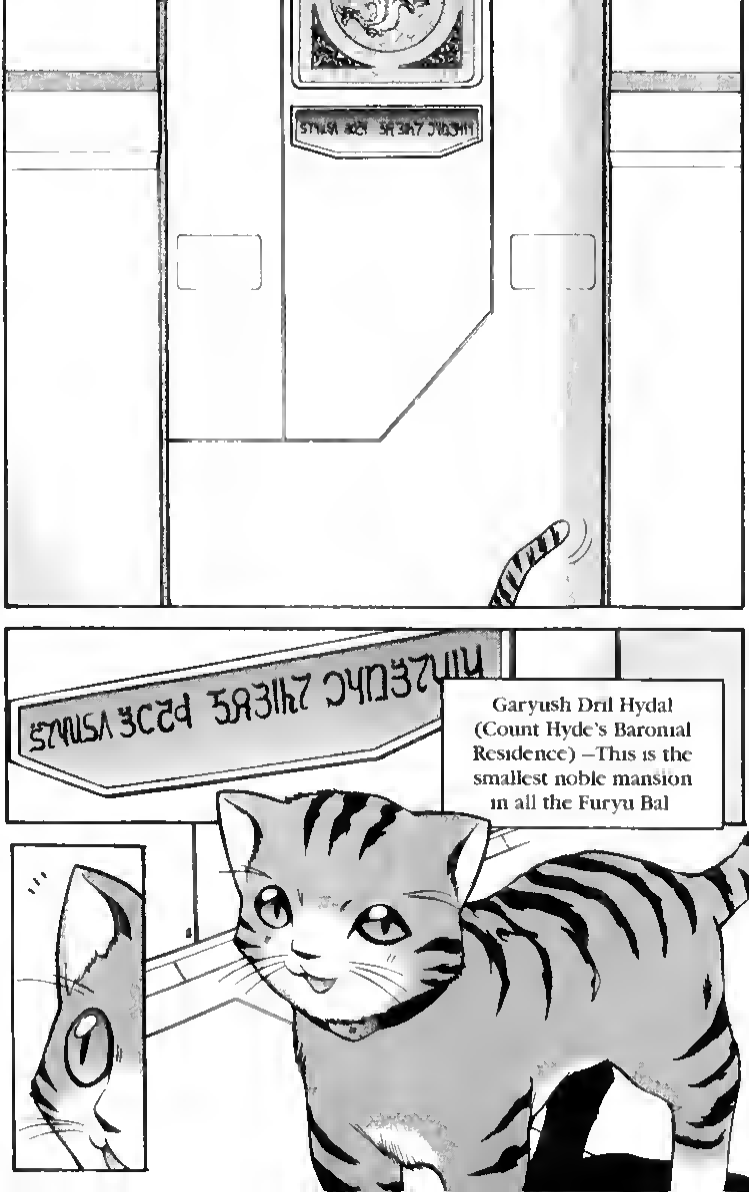
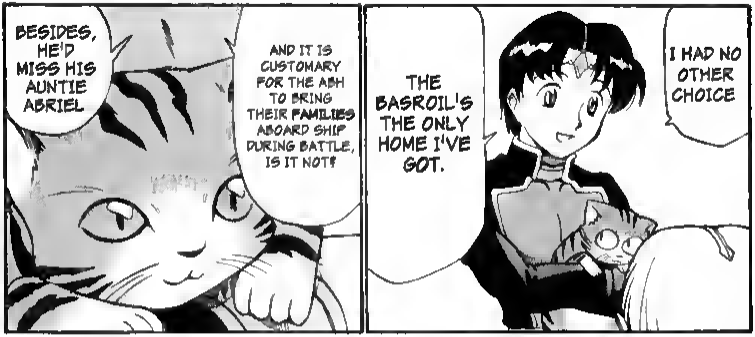
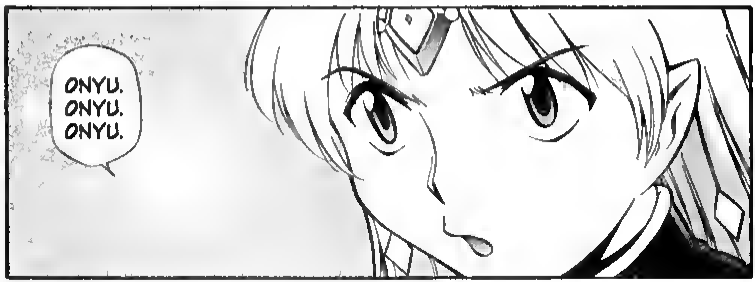

Garyush Dril Hyda!
(Count Hyde's Baronial Residence) —This is the smallest noble mansion in all the Furyu Bal

JINTO!
YOUR CAT IS BACK!
I'M SORRY, LAFIEL.
THE WORD ONYU SIMPLY DOESN'T DO YOU JUSTICE
THE BEAST DOES NOT BELONG IN A BATTLE ZONE
DIAHO!


BESIDES, HE'D MISS HIS AUNTIE ABRIEL
AND IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR THE ABH TO BRING THEIR FAMILIES ABOARD SHIP DURING BATTLE, IS IT NOT?
THE BASROIL'S THE ONLY HOME I'VE GOT.
I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE



Author's Note When Lafiel was a child she believed Diaho s grandmother Hofia supplied half of her genes

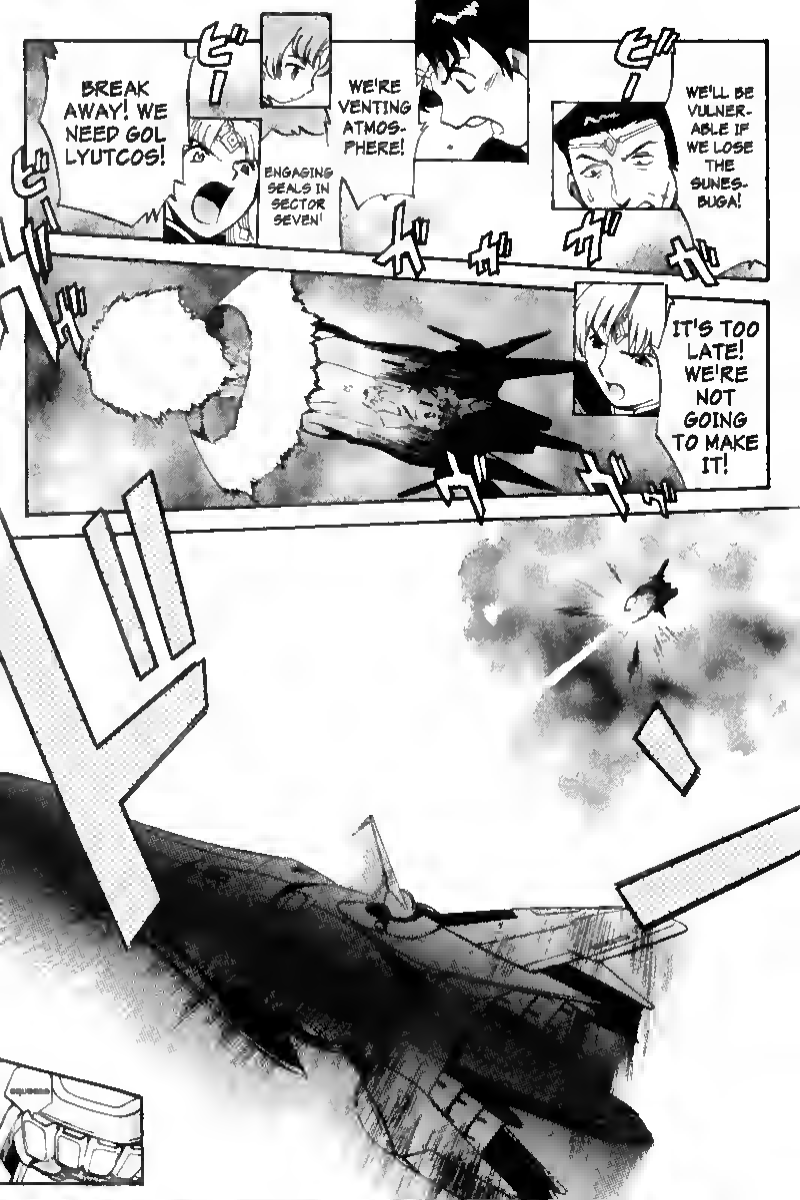
When Man set sail into the stars, many of the Arch Island cats were brought with them as pets
The space-bound Abh formed a particular bond with these cats
MEOW.
Abh Felines— these cats are descendents of a hardy feline breed that thrived on the Arch Islands of Earth

Chapter 1
Assault Ship Basroil
GEL BASROIL

Beep
GO!
PUTALOS!
ONE..
TWO
THREE
Beep
Beep
FOUR
FIVE
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ

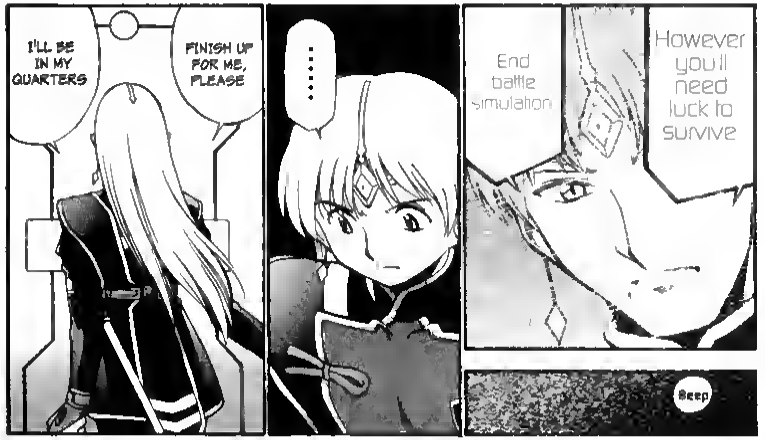
KREEEEN
GRIP
DIVE UNDER ITS WINGS!
FIRE VOK LANYU AT FULL POWER!
WILL DO!

UGH!
THE LENYUJU'S BEEN DESTROYED! NO MORE ANTI-PROTON BURSTS!
WE'RE LOSING POWER!
O.O!
O.O!


BREAK AWAY! WE NEED GOL LYUTCOS!
ENGAGING SEALS IN SECTOR SEVEN!
WE'RE VENTING ATMOSPHERE!
WE'LL BE VULNERABLE IF WE LOSE THE SUNESBUGA!
IT'S TOO LATE! WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT!

Pwip
MANOWAR, INCOMING TRANS-MISSION FOR YOU
PUT IT ON-SCREEN
Beep
Repeat enemy ship has been destroyed

A splendid display of elegance in battle
That wasn't bad Rowas Abriel


I'LL BE IN MY QUARTERS
FINISH UP FOR ME, PLEASE
.....
End battle simulation
However you'll need luck to survive
Beep

It's been three years since the war broke out between the Abh Empire and the Triple Alliance.*
I BET SHE'S EXHAUSTED
Each side prepared large-scale plans of attack for a quick, decisive victory. However, shortly after the onset of hostilities, the two sides reached a standstill.
Now the Abh Empire has amassed an unprecedented number of ships, several times the size of its prewar fleet. The standstill will soon be over.
*The three nations of the United Mankind, the Republic of Greater Alcont, and the People's Sovereign Union of Planets were once formally part of the Four-Nation Alliance. The Federation of Hania, in line with its characteristic "suumeid" ethical view, declined to participate in the war.

WHAT IS IT?
ALM RODAIL,
HE'S STILL YOUNG. DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD TELL HIM WHAT TO DO?
Sigh

YES, MA'AM.
INDEED
AS FIRST OFFICER OF THE SHIP, I COULD ORDER HIM TO DO IT, BUT HOW WOULD I LIVE WITH MYSELF AFTER CONSIGNING HIM TO SUCH A HAZARDOUS DUTY?
Senior Navigator Sobaash
LEKLE SOBAASH
DO YOU FOLLOW?
THAT BATTLE SIMULATION CLEARLY WOUNDED THE MANOWAS PRIDE.
FEKTODAI SAZOIL.
SO...
YES?
BOMOWAS KOTOKEIL HAS A LOT MORE COMBAT EXPERIENCE, WHILE THE MANOWAS HAS ONLY RECENTLY ACQUIRED COMMAND OF HER OWN SHIP.
SURELY, YOU'RE NOT QUESTIONING HER BATTLE TACTICS.

BEEP BEEP
PLEASE I'D RATHER YOU NOT USE THE TITLE.
I'M FULLY AWARE OF THAT, RONYU DRIL.
WE'VE ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM WITH THE MANOWAS' BATTLE TACTICS.
THIS IS TRUE OF ANY MANOWAS WE COULD BE ASSIGNED TO.
HOWEVER, SIMPLY BEING UNDER ROWAS ABRIEL'S COMMAND IS NO GUARANTEE OF SAFETY.
THAT SAID, THE MANOWAS ISN'T DOING TOO BADLY.
ABSO-LUTELY
DO YOU FOLLOW?
THAT'S MY OPINION, ANYWAY.

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!
ME?
WE WANT THE MANOWAS TO BE UPBEAT AND OPTIMISTIC TO ENTER BATTLE WITH A STRONG HEART...
THAT WAY WE'RE MORE LIKELY TO LIVE THROUGH THIS
.....
LOOK...
IF THE MANOWAS WERE IN A REALLY BAD MOOD, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
WELL...
I'D TRY TO MAKE HER FEEL BETTER SOMEHOW

GET AS FAR AS POSSIBLE FROM THAT GIRL
I'D TAKE A VACATION...
IF IT WERE YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
ALM RODAIL
IT'S NOT LIKE WE WENT ON AN ADVENTURE WITH HER.
NOW YOU CERTAINLY KNOW THE MANOWAS BETTER THAN US.
YOU HEAR THAT? THAT'S WHAT MOST WOULD DO WHEN FACED WITH HER WRATH
.....
AND WE CERTAINLY CAN'T CALL HER BY NAME.
OR WERE PERSONALLY APPOINTED TO BE PART OF HER CREW.
OR GIVEN A CAT

YOU DIDN'T KNOW WE KNEW?!
UM..
NO—
YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?!
IT'S ALL OVER THE SHIP.
HUH?
.....
WE'RE NOT JEALOUS OF YOU.
DON'T WORRY
ha ha ha ha!
Second Aviator Ekuryua
FEKTODAI EKURYUA

I'VE GOT ONE FOR YOU.
DON'T I NEED AN EXCUSE?
GO AND SOOTHE HER!
NOW, TO THE MANOWAR QUARTERS!
THANK YOU, DIAHO.
Beep
Beep

Fssh
Beep
HEY
IT LOOKS LIKE DIAHO'S PESTERING YOU.
.....
!
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
Click
WORRY?
ABOUT YOU?

AH...
ABOUT THE BATTLE SIMULA-TION--
Sweep
I'LL TELL YOU THAT YOU SHOULDN'T BEAT YOUR-SELF UP IN FRONT OF THE CREW
OKAY, I WON'T.
DON'T TELL ME THAT BOMOWAS KOTOKEIL IS AN EXPERT TACTICIAN, OR THAT I DIDN'T DO THAT BADLY AS A NEW CAPTAIN!
DON'T TELL ME SOMETHING I DON'T ALREADY KNOW
EVERYONE NOTICED
WHAT?
BEAT MYSELF UP?

I'VE SEEN YOU FREAK OUT AS BAD AS THIS BEFORE. MAYBE WORSE
NO, OF COURSE NOT
WE'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT
BY "THEY," DO YOU ALSO MEAN "YOU"?
THEY THINK IF SOMETHING AS INSIGNIFICANT AS THIS CAN UPSET AN ABRIEL, THE FUTURE LOOKS RATHER DIM
KAAAAH!
THEY CAN'T SAY THAT ABOUT MY MOTHER!
WHAT?! THEY SAY?
YEP. I'M SAY
GOOD THEN
HEY!
I DON'T KNOW! THIS IS MY FIRST LANDING!!
WHAT?!
WELL, HAVE TO LAND ON THE PLANET
NO CHOICE
CAN THIS THING EVEN LAND?
YOU'RE A VALUABLE YEAR OF CARGO
IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF YOU WERE DAMAGED
UNTIL!
SO, YOU SEE HOW HIGHLY THE PETA KALTONEL VALUES ME.
YOU...
YOU MONSTER
BUT WE HAVE SAME SKUL
MONEY!
IMPERIAL SKUL ARE NO GOOD! HERE, THE PLANET IS OCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY!
...BUT?! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY EYES! I CAN'T SEE THE STARS CLEARLY!
THAT'S HOW THEY LOOK FROM THE SURFACE OF A PLANET!
NO! DON'T DO IT LAFIEL!
HOW COULD YOU...!

SHUT UP, JINTO.
LAFIEL, THREE YEARS AGO YOU DIDN'T SHOW ANY SIGN OF WEAKNESS IN THE FACE OF DANGER.
IF YOU LOSE AGAIN, JUST PUT ON A STRONG FRONT EVERYONE WILL THINK BETTER OF YOU.
BESIDES, YOU'D THINK YOU'D BE USED TO LOSING BY NOW.
Mrrow
HUH?
YOU..

LAFIEL
I MIGHT HAVE TO FIND A NEW GUARDIAN
.....
OF ALL PEOPLE, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE MORE SUPPORTIVE
SO OUT HERE, I'LL GO WITH WHATEVER YOU SAY.
ME, I'M JUST A LANDER, A NAHENUD.
Pinch
Mrrow?
WE'RE OUT IN THE DAZ.
THIS IS THE HOME OF THE ABH PEOPLE
I MEAN WHAT I SAY.
YOU DON'T SOUND CERTAIN.

ALL RIGHT
SEE YOU LATER
F s s h

THREE YEARS AGO, WE WERE PROTECTING EACH OTHER.
JINTO, YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS.

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SEIKAI TRILOGY

BANNER OF THE STARS™

Three years have passed since Lafiel and Jinto's escape from planet Clasbul. Lafiel is now captain of her own assault ship, the *Basroil*, and has requested the services of Jinto Lin as her supply officer. However, only grueling struggle lies ahead. The conflict between the Abh Empire and the United Mankind has entered one of its hottest phases as the Abh initiate Operation Phantom Flame to capture a huge swath of enemy territory.

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TEEN
AGE 13+

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SEIKAI TRILOGY

BANNER OF THE STARS

HIROYUKI MORIOKA
TOSHIHIRO ONO

TOKYOPOP

Chapter 2
Operation Phantom Flame

KIAFAZET LENJV

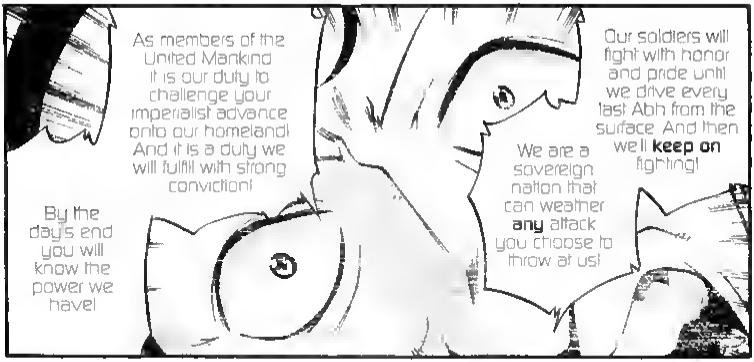
Planet
Aptic
III
Operation Phantom Flame
First Fleet Command Ship
the Cruiser Lashkau

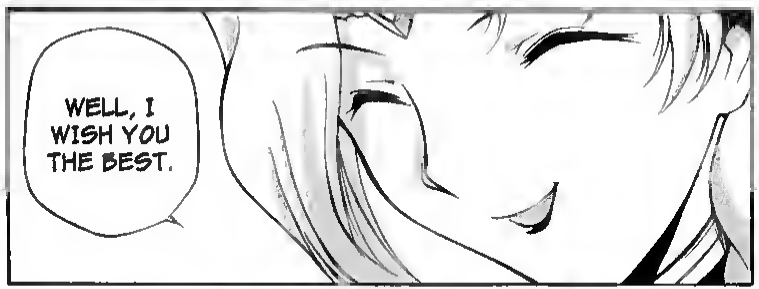
The Imperial Calendar year is 995 The Abh Empire has launched its massive counteroffensive in the Aptic star system
This operation has been dubbed Phantom Flame or Kufazet Leniv in Abh

IT HAS DEMOLISHED THE ENEMY WITHIN THE APTIC SYSTEM!
THE BYURU KASNA'S LONGIA HAVE ARRIVED.
Operation Phantom Flame Third Fleet Command Ship the Cruiser Sankau
UNDERSTOOD SEND OUR REPORT AS SOON AS WE CAN SECURE A COMMUNICATION LINK
WAIT FOR CONFIRMATION BEFORE PROCEEDING
Chief of Staff of the Phantom Flame Third Fleet Fleet Admiral Kenesh
IT LOOKS LIKE WE GOT THROUGH WITH MINIMAL DAMAGE TO THE FLEET.
YES.
Operation Phantom Flame Supreme Fleet Commander Abriel

ORDER FRODE SPOOR'S BYURU KASNA TO PROCEED
...IN THE RECAPTURE OF THE ENEMY'S SORD, STARTING FROM MISKEL, DALMAV, AND DEMETEL
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
THE BYURU VENA AND THE BYURU LUNA WILL FALL IN BEHIND THE FRODE TO SET UP A MAIN SUPPLY LINE.
MEANWHILE, THE BYURU MATA AND BYURU GONA WILL ADVANCE FROM THE FLANKS AND CAPTURE ANY INHABITED STAR SYSTEMS, STRENGTHENING OUR DEFENSIVE LINE
THE SUCCESS OF THIS OPERATION WILL REST IN THE SPEED AT WHICH WE CAN CUT THROUGH ENEMY TERRITORY AND RENDEZVOUS WITH OUR ALLIES ON THE OTHER SIDE
UNDERSTOOD, SIR.
BEGIN.

In orbit around Aptic III
Fine, Admiral. It's obvious our flagrant challenge [illegible] out
but down on the ground we're preparing a resistance to shake the very foundations of your Empire!
If you dare to land here you'll stand against an army the likes of which you've never imagined!
Operation Phantom Flame
First Fleet Commander
Admiral Spoor

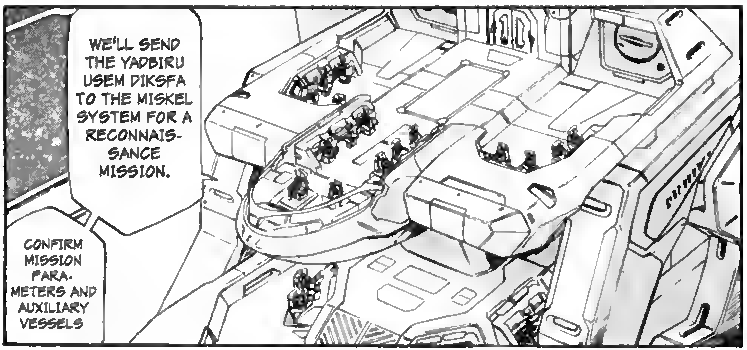

As members of the United Mankind it is our duty to challenge your imperialist advance onto our homeland! And it is a duty we will fulfill with strong conviction!
By the day's end you will know the power we have!
We are a sovereign nation that can weather **any** attack you choose to throw at us!
Our soldiers will fight with honor and pride until we drive every last Abh from the surface. And then we'll **keep on** fighting!

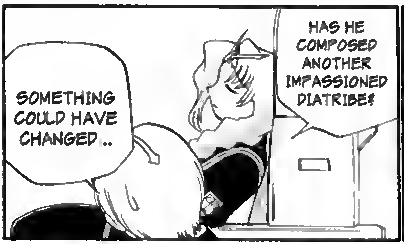

WELL, I WISH YOU THE BEST.

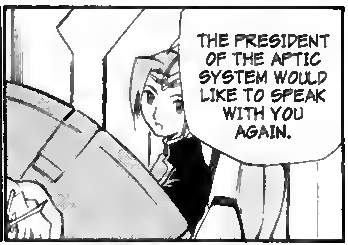
DID ANYTHING IMPORTANT HAPPEN WHILE I WAS LISTENING TO THE PRESIDENT PRATTLE ON?
WASS KASALEL
Sigh
?!
Beep

WELL.. YES
IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYTHING IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN
WE'VE SEIZED 70% OF THE ENEMY'S ANTIMATTER FUEL PRODUCTION IN THE DIRECT VICINITY OF THE APTIC SYSTEM
CONCISION IS THE KEY TO EFFICIENCY, WHICH IS THE CORNERSTONE OF ANY EMPIRE.
SO THE NEXT TIME I ASK IF ANYTHING HAS HAPPENED AND NOTHING HAS, JUST SAY "NO."
WHAT DOES THE ADMIRAL WANT FROM ME?!
ISN'T THIS BORING, WASS KASALEL?
I UNDERSTAND. I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL

ゴゴゴゴゴ


WE'LL SEND THE YADBIRU USEM DIKSFA TO THE MISKEL SYSTEM FOR A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION.
CONFIRM MISSION PARAMETERS AND AUXILIARY VESSELS


HAS HE COMPOSED ANOTHER IMPASSIONED DIATRIBE?
SOMETHING COULD HAVE CHANGED ..

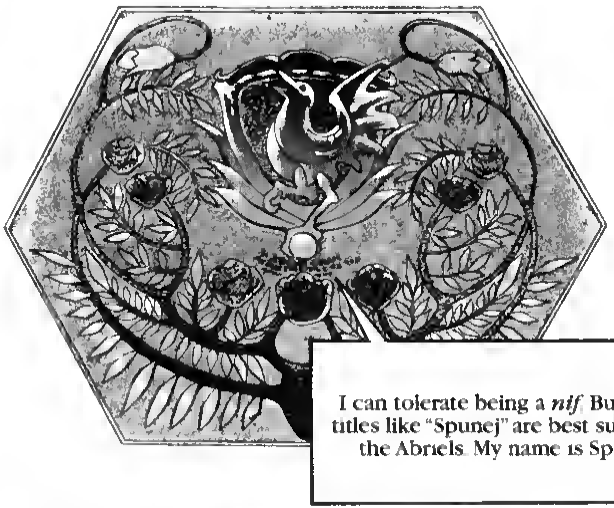

THE PRESIDENT OF THE APTIC SYSTEM WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU AGAIN.

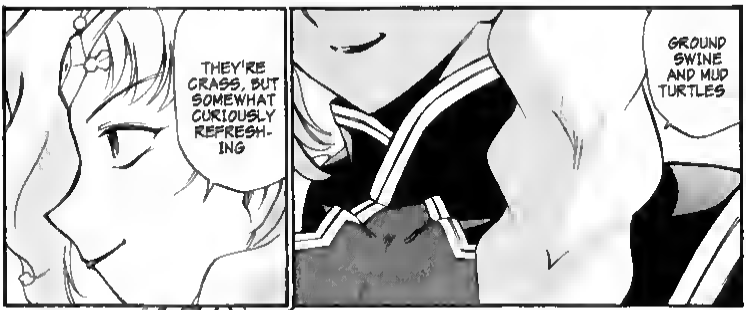
I'M TOO BUSY.
YES, ADMIRAL
YOU LISTEN TO WHAT HE HAS TO SAY.
VERY WELL, WASS KASALEL ..
a while ago I made it clear we were determined to resist
OKAY
HELP ME UNDERSTAND I PLEDGE STRONG RESISTANCE, BUT YOUR COMMANDER SIMPLY ENCOURAGES US.
THIS KIND OF ABNORMALITY FROM AN ENEMY COMMANDER IS...
YES, THAT IS CORRECT.
Uh

?!
ONYU! HE THINKS ALL ABH ACT LIKE ADMIRAL SPOOR.
I DID ALL I COULD TO LEARN ABH BEHAVIOR.
BUT OBVIOUSLY IT WASN'T ENOUGH
NOT A SURPRISE.
MM HM HM
I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT US, MR PRESIDENT
BUT YOU WILL FIND THAT THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF DIVERSITY AMONG US.
MOST ABH WOULD FIND HER BEHAVIOR PUZZLING AS WELL.
IN OTHER WORDS
THAT COMMANDER OF YOURS
SHHH!
She's not normal?!

I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH!!
Hypothetically, if you had been in her place what might you have said?
I'm sorry.
I'D PROBABLY HAVE SAID, "I WISH YOU THE BEST, PRESIDENT."
AM I TO UNDERSTAND THE PRESIDENT WANTED ME TO REPLY BY DEMANDING HIS SURRENDER?
AND TO PEPPER THAT DEMAND WITH PEJORATIVES AND RACIAL SLURS.
GROUND SWINE... MUD TURTLES... THOSE WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD

PLEDGING TO FIGHT TO THE END IS AN ATTRACTIVE ELECTION STRATEGY.
HMMM
WELL, THIS DOES MAKE THINGS MORE INTERESTING!
AH!
IF SHE INDULGES HIS REQUEST... THAT WOULD JUST BE CHILDISH!
NO THE GRAHALEL WOULD NEVER DO IT HERSELF
WHICH MEANS, SHE WOULD ORDER
You ground worms slopping about on the surface, wallow in your filthy sea of dirt you mud turtles!
.....
I WILL NOT BE TAKEN FOR A FOOL, NOR WILL I PLAY HIS POLITICAL GAMES
HE SHOULD HAVE REVEALED HIS REAL INTENTIONS FROM THE START
OH.
AFTER ALL...
THE FEIA GRAHALEL WILL BE HERE SOON I CAN LEAVE THE OFFICIAL SURRENDER ULTIMATUM TO HIM.
YES?


I can tolerate being a *nif*. But high titles like "Spunej" are best suited to the Abriels. My name is Spoor!


THEY'RE GRASS, BUT SOMEWHAT CURIOUSLY REFRESHING
GROUND SWINE AND MUD TURTLES

OH, I HOPE SHE DOESN'T START USING THOSE PHRASES JUST FOR KICKS!

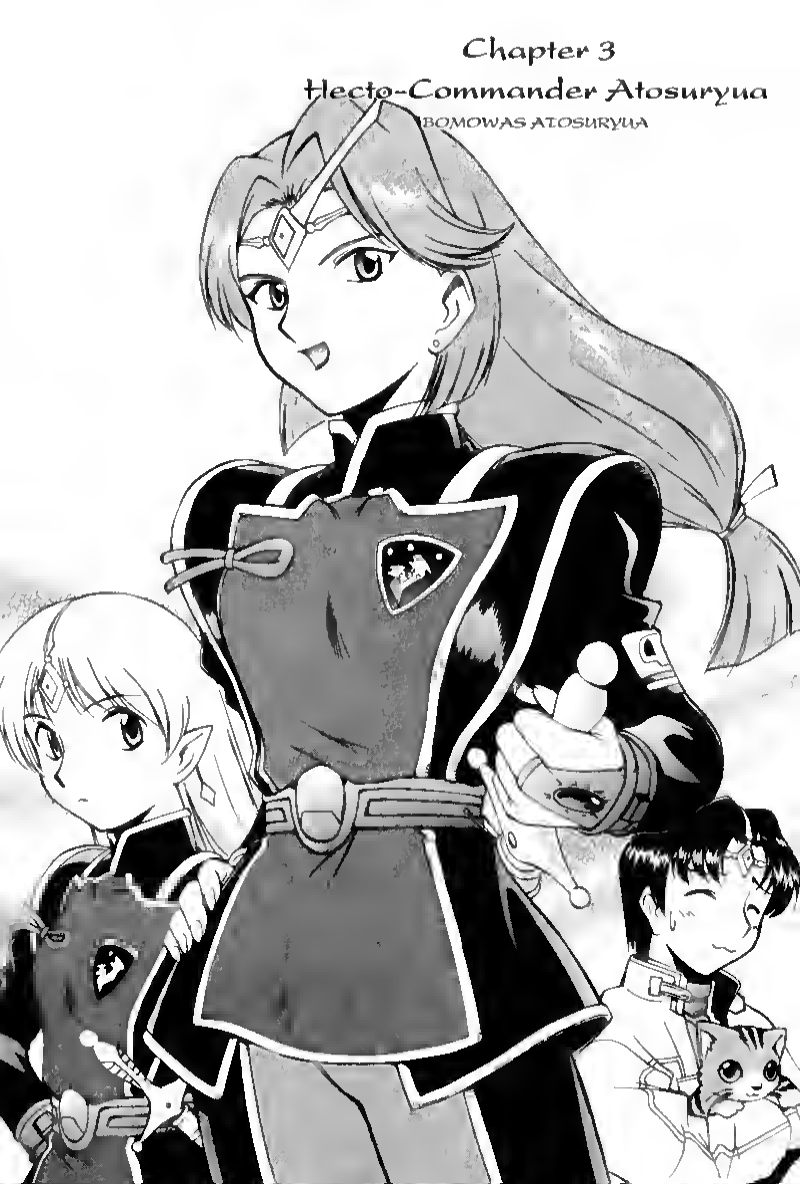
.....

These days... it seems like every month sees the birth of a new battle unit
The Assault Ship Basroil waits to be assigned to such a unit
Vobeirunei Deity Ministry
Planet Lulukess
WE HAVE OUR ASSIGNMENT!
WE'RE ATTACHED TO YADBIRU ASHAL LATOUCHE AS PART OF THE FOURTH ASSAULT UNIT OF THE 1058TH BATTALION.
WE LEAVE IN TWO HOURS!
THIS IS SUDDEN.
WE'LL HAVE TO HURRY.
THEN HURRY!

DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF OUR NEW SALEL SUYUM ASHAL?
Fash
YOU SURE ARE THICK SOMETIMES
WHERE HAVE I...
?
IT'S BOMOWAS ATOSURYUA.
SHE'S THE YOUNGER SISTER OF RYUF FEBDASH.

Chapter 3
Hecto-Commander Atosuryua

BOMOWAS ATOSURYUA

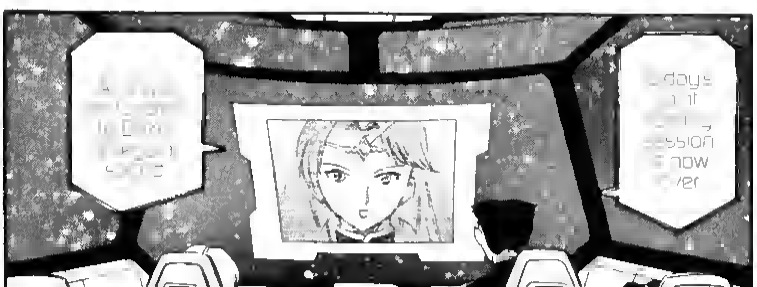


Aptic III Star System
You're not going to demand it, are you?
YES.
WE HAVE NO SUCH PLANS
TO BE FRANK, WE ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN THE NEARBY SORDS...
. AS WELL AS THE HYDROGEN AND WATER RESOURCES ON APTIC IV.
This is quite an insult

ONCE WE COMPLETE THE FIRST PHASE OF OUR OPERATION AND YOUR SYSTEM IS UNDER OUR CONTROL...
...AND ASSUMING THAT YOUR WORLD ISSUES NO SURRENDER BEFORE THEN, WE MAY CONSIDER ISSUING SUCH A DEMAND
ONE MORE THING. WE HAVE NO WISH TO SEND YOUR PLANET SPIRALING INTO ANARCHY AND UNREST.
BUT I COULD NEVER...
IT WOULD BEHOOVE US ALL IF YOU SURRENDER VOLUNTARILY BEFORE SUCH A SITUATION ARISES
HAVE A GOOD DAY, MR PRESIDENT
Pwip

.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU DEMAND HIS IMMEDIATE SURRENDER?
HOW GENEROUS OF YOU.
. THEY WOULD LOOK UNKINDLY ON A PEOPLE WHO SUBMITTED TO THE EMPIRE
IF THE FORCES OF THE UNITED MANKIND RECAPTURE THIS SYSTEM
AND, OF COURSE TREATIES ARE TIRESOME THINGS

Three months later
The Aptic III Star System has emerged as a Labule supply base
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
HMM?
MANOWAS
INCOMING MESSAGE FROM THE SALE.



Three years ago, Lafiel was forced to kill the Bomowas older brother

Orbital Station Dakul
I WONDER WHAT SHE THINKS OF US.
DOES IT WORRY YOU?
DOESN'T IT BOTHER YOU?
WE HAD NO CHOICE.
THAT DOESN'T MATTER!
.....
THE BOMOWAS' BROTHER IS STILL DEAD!

OOOHHH!!
AND HOW CAN I CHANGE THAT?
ALL THESE YEARS I'VE SPENT WITH THE ASH AND I STILL CAN'T GET USED TO THEIR AUSTERITY
HOW DO I ANSWER THAT?
YOU ARE FEKTODAI SAZOIL LIN, ARE YOU NOT?
SOMETIMES I FORGET THAT SHE'S PROBABLY GOING TO BECOME THE SPUNEJ, THE PEIA LALTONEL.
FOR A NAHENUD LIKE ME, THAT'S .
Thunk
YEAH
IT'S LAFIEL'S AUSTERITY I CAN'T GET USED TO.
NO...

BOMOWAS ATOSURYUA!
AT EASE NO NEED TO BE SO FORMAL
YES! HE WAS... A GOOD... UH...
I KNEW YOUR FATHER VERY WELL.
UH HUH.
I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I DON'T HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MY BROTHER

Vmmmm
BUT TO BE HONEST, MY BROTHER AND I HAD OUR DIFFERENCES
MY BROTHER WAS MERCILESSLY SLAUGHTERED, AND I AM BY NO MEANS OVER HIS LOSS.
RIGHT
T■P
THE PROBLEM IS WHAT TO DO WITH HIS SUNE.
IT'S A SHAME
WELL I'M SOR--
WE DIDN'T GET ALONG WELL.
WHAT?
AS YOU'RE WELL AWARE, FEBDASH IS QUITE REMOTE.
I NEVER LIKED IT EVEN AS A CHILD

I WAS RELIEVED WHEN MY BROTHER ACCEPTED THE BARONY
I FIGURED I COULD SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE HAPPILY IN LAKFAKALLE.
.....
SHE IS INTENT ON KILLING ME.
SO FOR THE SAKE OF MY TERRITORY, I MUST BETRAY THE EMPIRE.
I DIDN'T ASK TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.
I SIMPLY ORDERED YOU TO RELEASE MY COMPANION!
I WILL LET YOU GO!
BUT THANKS TO THAT PRINCESS OF YOURS, MY PLANS WERE COMPLETELY RUINED!
IT WAS JUST A SILLY EXPRESSION
I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT MY MANOWAS IS NOT MY PRINCESS
?!
I SEE.

I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU HELD SOME SORT OF GRUDGE AGAINST US.
FROM WHAT MY FATHER TOLD ME,
I HAD THE IMPRESSION YOU'D KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.
.....
EVEN IF I DID HOLD SUCH A GRUDGE, WHY MENTION IT TO YOU?
AFTER ALL, I'M IN A GOOD POSITION TO USE MY RANK TO GET REVENGE ON HER
IF I DID HOLD A GRUDGE, I'D WAIT FOR AN OPPORTUNITY
ANYWAY, YOU CAN TELL YOUR FASENZEL THAT...
..
I BEAR NO GRUDGE.
IT'S ALL UP TO FATE, SO WHY WORRY?

SHE'S AN ABRIEL FASENZEL. I CAN TALK TO HER ABOUT WORK...
...BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO TALK WITH HER ABOUT PERSONAL MATTERS.
IT'S DIFFICULT
WHY DON'T YOU TELL HER YOURSELF!
.....
IS THAT SO?
LIFE ISN'T FAIR.
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE I HAVE TROUBLE TALKING TO...
...BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE ANY TROUBLE TALKING TO ME
Ha ha

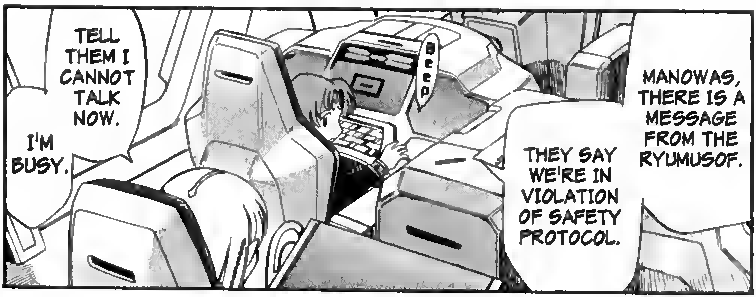
ドドド

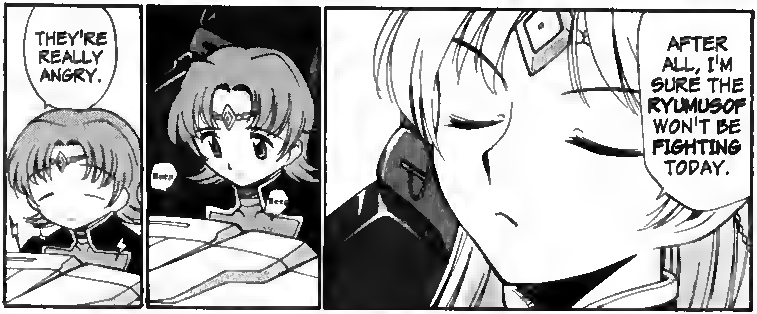
ACTIVATE THE FORWARD THRUST ENGINES AT MINIMUM PROPULSION!
ALL CONNECTING PASSAGEWAYS ARE TO BE SEPARATED AND SHUT DOWN.
SEAL THE RO!
ENGINES ACTIVATED!
BEEP
We have our official orde s
Attention this is Jou Sale
CLICK

I'll send you the data for our rendezvous. All ships are to meet there as soon as possible!
We are to intercept the unidentified frasas. If they turn out to be the enemy eliminate them!
OUR FIRST BATTLE.
.....
IGNITE OPSEI!

IT'S GOING TO BE A RACE FOR THE APTIC SORD!
Chapter 4
First Blood
1STFLASHOS

SHE FEELS SLUGGISH


TELL THEM I CANNOT TALK NOW.
I'M BUSY.
Beep
MANOWAS, THERE IS A MESSAGE FROM THE RYUMUSOF.
THEY SAY WE'RE IN VIOLATION OF SAFETY PROTOCOL.


THEY'RE REALLY ANGRY.
Beep
Beep
AFTER ALL, I'M SURE THE RYUMUSOF WON'T BE FIGHTING TODAY.

WILL DO.
Stand by until the other ship
the first one here is Manowas Ahnel
ANYONE UP FOR A DRINK?
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT TIME TO KILL.
Tap
Tap
.....

MRRROW
JINTO!!
HUH? YES?
RIGHT!
WHAT IS YOUR CAT DOING HERE?
DIAHO!
ACTUALLY, I'LL HAVE A TEAL NOM!
HOT, WITH A LOPE.

I'M FINE
Okay!
BOOZE!
I'LL HAVE SOYALA.
WITH YONI LEAVES AND LOTS OF SUGAR.
COLD, WITH APPLE SYRUP
I'LL HAVE A SOYASA
Slurp
Then line up behind my ship as quickly as possible single-column formation!
Understood?
Squadron leaders prepare to enter Fwasl

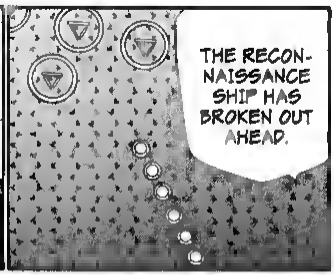
Since this is our inaugural battle, it is important that we be victorious
It so much as a petal slips by, we've failed
It has been confirmed that we are to eliminate the unidentified frasas
Beep
We will rendezvous in Fwas
ALL RIGHT! HERE WE GO!

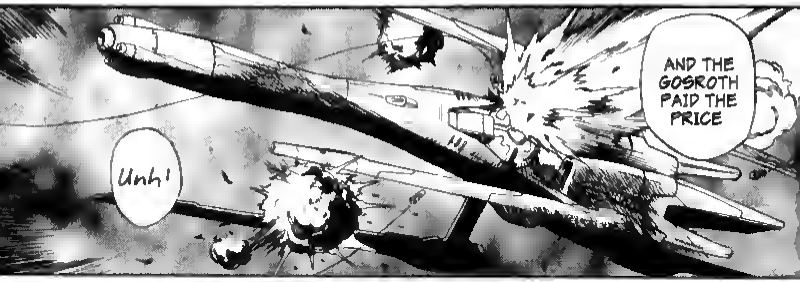
THEY DESERVE OUR RESPECT FOR THEIR COURAGE
ONE SHIP IS BREAKING AWAY! THAT MUST BE THE RECONNAISSANCE SHIP!
THE ENEMY FLEET HAS COME INTO POSITION AWAY FROM THE APTIC SORD.
BUT THE HONOR OF THE LABULE IS AT STAKE! NO SHIP WILL ESCAPE!

I BELIEVE THEY ARE HOKSAS.
EIGHT UNIDENTIFIED FRASAS ARE SEPARATING
Beep
PREPARE TO FIRE THE LENYUJU!
RELEASING SAFETY CLAMPS!
Let's try to keep clear of danger for now
SET FOR GOL PUTALOS IN TWENTY SECONDS!
FIVE.
FOUR.
CONFIRMING THE PRESENCE OF UNITED MANKIND SATES GOL HOKSAS
GOL PUTALOS!
Beep
THREE
TWO
ONE.

ALL SHIPS, FIRE!
SHOOMS
SHOOMS
SHOOMS
Form a column and follow me

THAT WAS US ONCE.
TRYING TO GET THROUGH WITH OUR DATA LOGS.


THE RECON-NAISSANCE SHIP HAS BROKEN OUT AHEAD.


AND THE GOSROTH PAID THE PRICE
Unh!

I'M SCARED TOO.

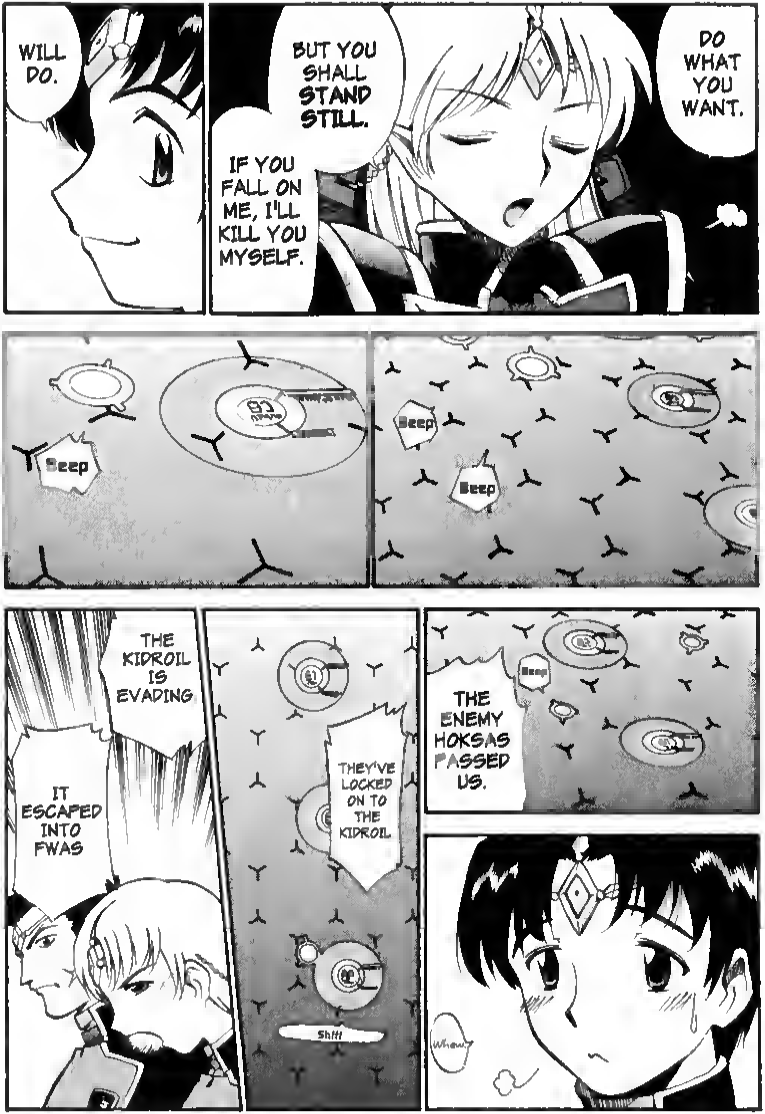
Gulp!
TO BE HONEST...

I'M SCARED EITHER WAY.

I'D HATE TO BE THE ONLY ONE TREMBLING IN FEAR.
?
THAT MAKES ME FEEL BETTER
I DON'T THINK THERE IS ONE AMONG US WHO ISN'T TREMBLING.
YEAH. THE ONLY THING HE FEARS IS HIS BATH.
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DIAHO OVER THERE
Mrow.

TWELVE MINUTES UNTIL GOL PUTALOS WITH THE ENEMY FRASAS
THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE IN THE GOL PUTALOS SCHEDULE
WE'RE TO WAIT FOR THE FOURTH ASSAULT UNIT
PHEW
FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST GOING TO BE OUR SIX LITTLE SHIPS OUT THERE
.....

THIS IS AN ABH HUNTING GROUND.
WE'RE LIKE A PACK OF LIONS DESCENDING ON SOME ELK.
THE ENEMY'S FRASAS HAS SPLIT INTO FOUR HOKSAS.
!!
IT'S A MESSAGE FROM THE SALEL. THE HOKSAS ARE OUR PROBLEM.
IF ONE OF THOSE HOKSAS HITS US, THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING FOR ME TO DO THERE
JINTO. RETURN TO YOUR STATION.


WILL DO.
BUT YOU SHALL STAND STILL.
IF YOU FALL ON ME, I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF.
DO WHAT YOU WANT.
Beep
Beep
Beep
THE KIDROIL IS EVADING
IT ESCAPED INTO FWAS
THEY'VE LOCKED ON TO THE KIDROIL
Shit!
Beep
THE ENEMY HOKSAS PASSED US.
Whew

ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ
THAT'S NOT SO BAD.
Beep
TEN OF US AGAINST ONE BIG SHIP?
WE'RE EXPECTED TO REJOIN THE MAIN BATTLE
WILL DO.
ONCE WE ENGAGE THE ENEMY, YOU WILL HAVE WORK TO DO.
JINTO, NOW IS TIME FOR YOU TO RETURN TO YOUR BATTLE STATION
FIVE MINUTES UNTIL GOL FUTALOS
?!
AND, BY THE WAY, YOU DON'T LOOK SCARED

Hmm
ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
ONE MINUTE UNTIL SPACE-TIME FUSION WITH THE MAIN SHIP
THE ALM GEL HAS ENTERED GOL PUTALOS WITH THE TARGET
EKURYUA ESTABLISH A COMM LINK TO THE GAMROIL AS SOON AS WE ENTER GOL PUTALOS
WILL DO
SEVEN SECONDS UNTIL GOL PUTALOS!
5
4

GOL PUTALOS!
1
2
3
..Rowas Abriel
Welcome to the battlefield..

ズーン
ズーン

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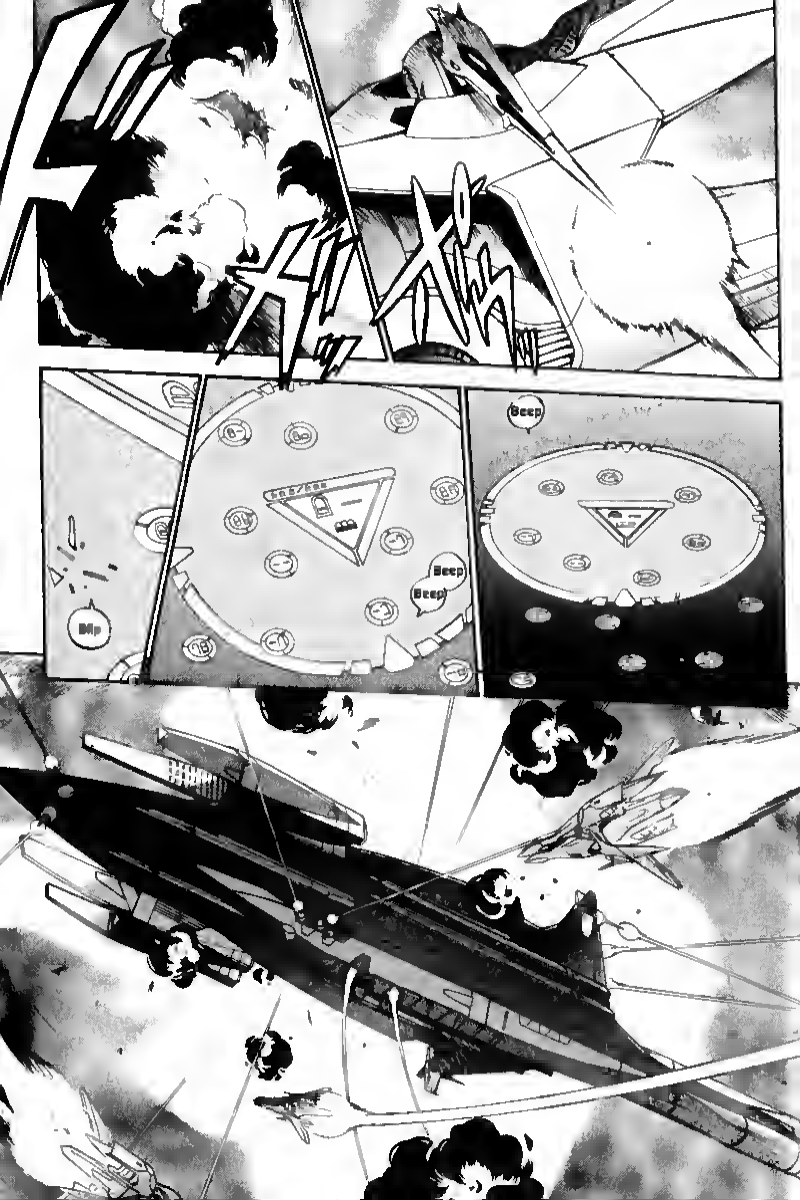

Beep
Beep
Beep
Blip

THEY DON'T HAVE A CHANCE.
WE'RE SWARMING THEM.
WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?
WE'RE SMALL SHIPS.
IN COMBAT AGAINST A LARGER FOE, THIS IS ALL WE CAN DO.
YES, MANOWAS.

KUH!
HOW CAN WE BE TAKING CASUALTIES?!
THE HELZROIL HAS BEEN DESTROYED!

UHH!
THEY HIT SECTION FOURTEEN!
Bweeep
Bweeep
DAMMIT. THAT WAS OUR STOREROOM. I WANTED THOSE PARTS
THE ENEMY HAS AIMED ITS ELGYULF AT US!

GOL LEUTOKOS
HURRY!
OH NO!
Bäsroil you have clearance to retreat!
FOUR HOKSAS APPROACHING!

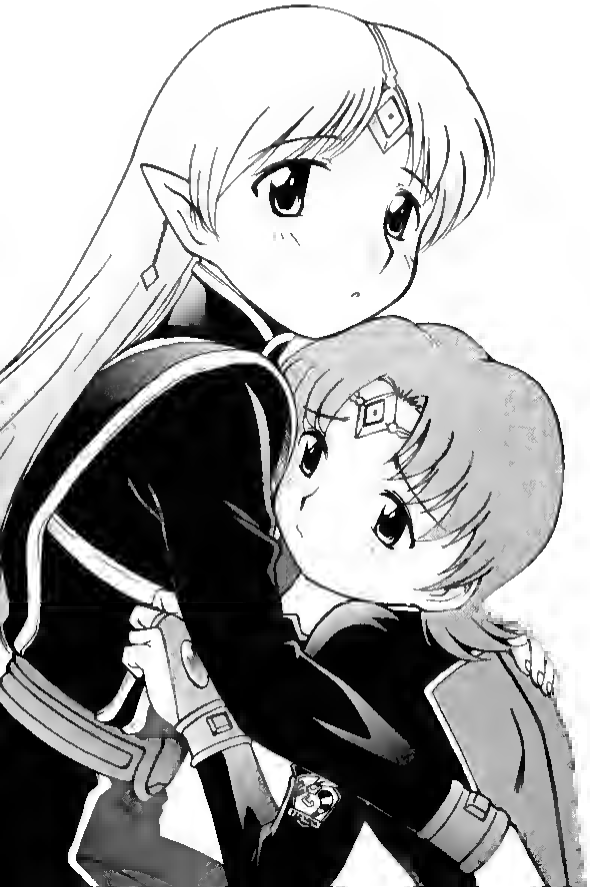
Beep

IT'S NO LONGER OUR FIGHT.
THE OTHER SHIPS HAVE ENTERED GOL PUTALOS AT THE BATTLE SITE.
HMM
THAT WAS REALLY CLOSE.
UHHH.
THE COMMANDER ONLY OFFERED US A RETREAT!
REJOIN THAT FRASAS!

Sigurd
BEST CASE, I CAN FINISH THIS IN ONE SHOT.
Welcome back Basroi
but we're falling back
BWIP BWIP
WHY?!
We received orders from Suragaf Sov
The Yadbiru Ashai is readying hoksas to destroy the enemy fleet

GOL LEUTOKOS.
.....
WE WERE JUST SUPPOSED TO KEEP THE FLAGSHIP BUSY.

.....
THAT WAS QUICK.
ENEMY SHIP DESTROYED!
Blip
HOW ABOUT A DRINK, EVERYONE?
A TOAST TO SURVIVING OUR FIRST BATTLE!



Chapter 5
Spectacular Insanity

LAFEK GUNANA

The Byuru Vena of Kufazet Leniv arrives majestically at the Demetel star system
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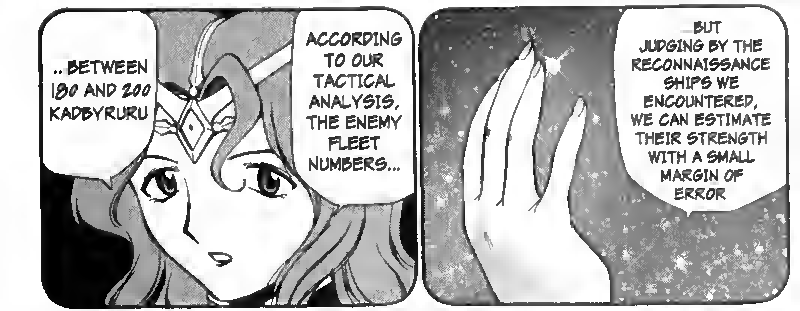
ONLY HALF OF THEM ESCAPED...
THEY SENT RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS TO FIVE OTHER STAR SYSTEMS


..BETWEEN 180 AND 200 KADBYRURU
ACCORDING TO OUR TACTICAL ANALYSIS, THE ENEMY FLEET NUMBERS...
BUT JUDGING BY THE RECONNAISSANCE SHIPS WE ENCOUNTERED, WE CAN ESTIMATE THEIR STRENGTH WITH A SMALL MARGIN OF ERROR

I WONDER IF I UNDER-ESTIMATED THEM.
Fssh
HAVE YOU MADE UP YOUR MIND?
YES. DESTROY THE ENEMY FLEET AND PROCEED WITH THE INVASION.
IN THAT CASE, SHOULD WE SWITCH TO KUFAZET LENIV: PHASE 10?
THAT WOULD BE FINE

THE TWO BROTHERS?
BEBAUS?
THE APTIC SORD WILL BE ASSIGNED TO FRODE BEBAUS.
FRODE MULUSUFA WILL PROTECT THE MYSKEL SORD
OH
DO YOU NOT LIKE THEM?
N...
NO.
THIS STEMS FROM SOME PERSONAL EXPERIENCE?
I DON'T NEED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION
I SEE.

But, this clan's history is peppered with incidents of "spectacular insanity"
It is a family renowned for its many scientists and artists
The Bebaus are one of the twenty-nine root families of the Abh
THAT'S QUITE AN ASSIGNMENT
THE COMMANDER HAS ORDERED US TO DEFEND THE APTIC SORD
NEREIS
WE'VE RECEIVED OUR ORDERS
Admiral
Prince Neries
Bebaus Alon Nerem
Chief of Staff
Prince Nefee
Bebaus Alon Erem

Among the Abh, who have perfected artificial procreation the birth of twins is rare
WHY DON'T YOU START, NEREIS
IF YOU DO SOMETHING STUPID...
..I'LL BE HERE TO SET IT RIGHT
DREAM ON, BROTHER
THE LAST THING I NEED IS YOUR INSIPID ADVICE, NEFEE
OH, AREN'T YOU THE CONFIDENT ONE, NEREIS
BETTER KEEP THAT IN CHECK THIS TIME
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU WERE THE PARAGON OF CONFIDENCE IN THAT STRATEGY MEETING LAST WEEK
LAUNCHED INTO THAT BEAUTIFUL ORATION ABOUT THE NEED FOR PASSION IN BATTLE
CAN YOU RECALL ALL THE BLANK FACES IN THE ROOM?
I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING WRONG.

BATTLES ARE FOUGHT TO WIN.
HARDLY THE VOICE OF A TACTICIAN
BATTLES NEED HEART
I CAN'T ACCEPT THE NOTION THAT BATTLES ARE ONLY ABOUT WINNING
AND THAT IS WHY I AM HERE, NEREIS
BUT ONE MUST WIN WITH STYLE, NEFEE.
YOU BETTER GET UP TO THE GAHOL..
GRAHALEL.
AH.
QUITE THE TACTICAL MOVE, NEREIS
SPEAKING TO YOU WHEN YOU'RE LIKE THIS IS POINTLESS
IT'S TIME TO PREPARE FOR OUR DEPARTURE
SO...
ゴゴ

IF WE HAD MORE THAN THIS, WE WOULD RUN OUT OF SUPPLIES AND LIMIT OUR RANGE.
THAT'S ONLY IF WE CONCENTRATE OUR FORCES AROUND THE SORD, RIGHT?
THIS IS PERFECT, NEREIS
WE HAVE TWELVE YADBIRU? DO WE--?

YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH ASSUMPTIONS, NEFEE
IS THAT WHAT YOU PLANNED?
THAT'S WHAT I PLANNED
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO UP AGAINST AT LEAST 150 ENEMY YADBIRU AT THE SORD.
WHY DON'T WE CONFRONT THE ENEMY IN FWAS?
ENTERING THE APTIC SORD.
I KNOW THAT!
AND WE CAN'T EXPECT MANY REINFORCE-MENTS TO HELP US HOLD THE LINE
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴ

LOOK, NEREIS...
THAT IS OUR BATTLE-FIELD.
SO, IT'S GOING TO BE A BATTLE IN DADEOCKS.
IT'S NOT VERY REWARDING. CONSIDERING OUR ABILITY TO MOVE THROUGH FWAS
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
WE CAN SHOW THEM WHAT WE LEARNED IN LABULE TRAINING

IT'S MOST IMPORTANT THAT WE WIN, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU FIND IT— ARTISTIC?
Nefee
A BATTLE IN DADEOCKS AT SUCH A LARGE SCALE
ゴ
AS YOU KNOW, I AM THE TACTICIAN HERE, NEREIS.
BUT I WON'T MAKE IT MY SOLE OBJECTIVE
Nefee
ONE CAN'T HELP IT IF IT BECOMES ARTISTIC.
AND THAT'S WHY I AM TERRIFIED OF THE COMING BATTLE, NEFEE.

SO THEN...
WHICH ONE WAS IT? THE GRAHALEL OR THE WASS LASALEL?
I HAVE SOME PONDERING TO DO.
WELL, I'LL BE IN MY QUARTERS IF YOU DO.
I SAID I DON'T NEED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.
I DON'T NEED TO ANSWER THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU... PONDERING?
FEIA...

Chapter 6
Remembrance Dinner

©YUKI LOBROT

Beep
YES?
Vummm
Fektodai Sazoil Lin
WHAT?!
HEH.
THAT'S STRANGE FROM WHOM?
BUT...
WAIT A MOMENT!

GOOD MORNING, BOMOWAS.
Zip
Good morning Fektodai Sazail Lin
If you could only see yourself right now...
MM?
I wan to invit you and Rowas Abriel to dinner
here, need for you to be so formal
YOU'RE INVITING US?
I've made reservations at Mitsugoiwa

Tomorrow would have been my brother's birthday
I want to celebrate it with those who had a connection with him
WELL
A CONNEC-TION
Hmmh.
YOU PLAN ON RAMMING MY SHIP?!
I'd like you to extend this invitation to Rowas Abriel
NO
WELL

UGH!
Even if the Feta Bel refuses you'll still come won't you?
And Jinto
I UNDER-STAND
LAFIEL WILL PROBABLY REFUSE HER REQUEST.
OF...
OF COURSE I WILL!
I hate to have to cancel my reservation after jumping through hoops to get one
I WAS NEVER EVEN ABLE TO MEET HER BROTHER LAFIEL BLEW HIM OUT OF THE SKY BEFORE I HAD THE CHANCE.
AH...
Pllp

IT IS THE KYUF'S BIRTHDAY!
TO BE HONEST, I'M SURPRISED YOU ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION.
DO YOU FEEL GUILTY?
TO HELP IN MOURNING?
MORE THAN THAT
CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF SOMEONE WHO HAS DIED IS IMPORTANT

NOTHING IS WORSE
THAN BEING FORGOTTEN
TO HELP PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN. TO MAKE SURE THAT WARRIORS WHO FOUGHT ENDURE IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THEIR PEOPLE.
SO...
THE LIVING SHOULD SPEND SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS OF TIME REMEMBERING THE DEAD
BUT I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER DONE ANYTHING IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO WARRANT PEOPLE REMEMBERING ME AFTER I DIE. NO ONE WOULD CARE.
PERHAPS
AND WHEN WE COME TO DIE, THE LIVING WILL REMEMBER US.

FEIA.
RONYU.
IT WAS GOOD OF YOU TO COME HERE TO HONOR MY LATE BROTHER. I THANK YOU ON HIS BEHALF
YES, THANK YOU
THANK YOU FOR THIS HONOR, RONYU LYUM.
I WANT US ALL TO FEEL RELAXED AND COMFORTABLE
PLEASE, LET'S SET ASIDE OUR LABULE LENYU.
TO MY BROTHER!

GULP
MY BROTHER'S BODY MOVES EVER CLOSER TOWARD THE CENTER OF THE GALAXY
I SUPPOSE IF WE HAD RETRIEVED IT, WE WOULD HAVE LAUNCHED IT INTO SPACE ANYWAY.
HOWEVER, WHEN WE READ HIS LAST TESTAMENT
...HE SAID HE WANTED HIS BODY SENT OUTWARD... AWAY FROM THE GALAXY.
THOUGH I SUPPOSE HE WON'T MIND SINCE HE'S DEAD... AFTER ALL.
WELL... I'M SORRY... NONETHELESS

IT'S ALL RIGHT, FEIA
MY BROTHER CHOSE HIS OWN PATH.
BESIDES, HIS SHIP, ROJYU FEDAK— THE LADY OF FEDBASH—
I DON'T THINK WE COULD HAVE FOUND A MORE ELEGANT COFFIN
THIS IS...
IS THE MEAL NOT TO YOUR LIKING?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
THIS IS WHAT THE RYUF SERVED ME WHEN I DINED WITH HIM IN FEBDASH
AH, YES.
I KNOW. WE FOUND A RECORD OF IT.

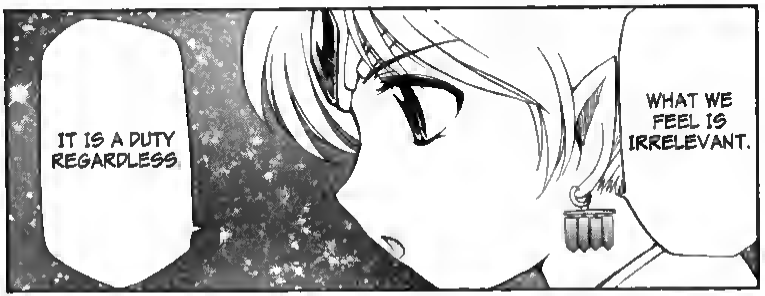
I HOPE YOU'LL KEEP ME COMPANY UNTIL THE END OF TONIGHT'S MEAL.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
I HAD TO LEAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR BROTHER'S DINNER.
...HE ALWAYS DID PREFER THE COMPANY OF LADIES.
BUT...
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT EITHER.
FUNNY, I WASN'T EVEN THERE!
LYUM.
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE ENGINEERED THIS EVENING TO RUB MY FACE IN YOUR BROTHER'S DEATH!
WHAT IS THE REAL REASON WE'RE HERE?

FEIA!
...KNOWING I'D INVITED YOU TO DINNER MERELY TO INSULT YOU?
HOW WOULD OUR DESCENDENTS PRESERVE SUCH PRIDE..
DESPITE OUR SHORT HISTORY, WE ARE A PROUD FAMILY.
FORGIVE ME. I WAS BEING INCONSIDERATE
YOU'RE RIGHT.
Squeeze

I HAVE SOME WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF MY BROTHER.
MOST OF THEM ARE FROM CHILDHOOD. OF COURSE
YES, THOSE WERE.

THAT DINNER WAS DIFFICULT FOR YOU.
IT'S NOT MY STYLE
MOURNING THE DEAD
AT LEAST YOU MET HIM. THE ONLY TIME I TALKED TO THE RYUF WAS OVER THE RADIO
AND THAT WAS OVER BEFORE IT EVEN STARTED.
BUT THIS WAS OUR DUTY...
TO MOURN HIS DEATH.
IT'S NOT LIKE HE AND I PLUMBED THE DEPTHS OF CONVERSATION EITHER

DUTY, IS IT?
I THINK I'D RATHER BE FORGOTTEN
THAN TO HAVE SOMEONE MOURN ME OUT OF A SENSE OF DUTY


WHAT WE FEEL IS IRRELEVANT.
IT IS A DUTY REGARDLESS.

Chapter 7
Battlefield at the Aptic Gate

LAJSHAKAL WEK SODAL APTJCAL

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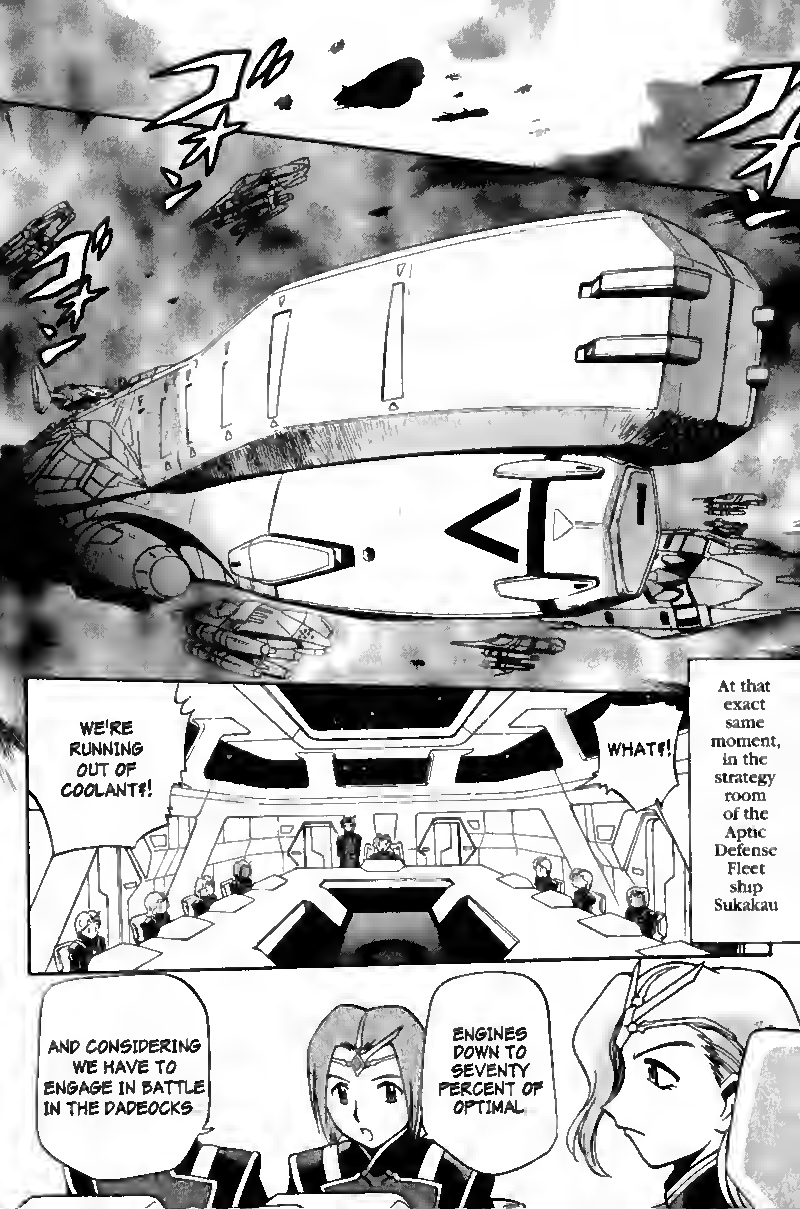
THE MAIN ENEMY FORCES HAVE MOVED TO WIMPEL
APTIC WILL THEREFORE BE THE TARGET OF THEIR ASSAULT.
THE MAIN FLEET WILL PASS THROUGH THE APTIC SORD IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS
THEY'RE ABOUT 170 YADBIRU GEL STRONG WITH A SMALL MARGIN OF ERROR, OF COURSE.
IT WILL TAKE OUR MAIN FLEET SEVENTY-TWO HOURS TO ARRIVE AT THE APTIC SORD
THAT LEAVES THE BEBAUS BROTHERS TO HOLD THEM OFF AS BEST THEY CAN

WE'VE LEARNED MUCH SINCE THE BATTLE OF LAKFAKALLE THREE YEARS AGO. TO STALEMATE A SECOND TIME WOULD BE EXTREMELY CLUMSY OF US.
I AGREE.
WE CAN'T FACE ANOTHER STALEMATE
WHAT IS IT?
Stiffen
YES.
I NEED YOU TO CONFIRM SOMETHING FOR ME.
fwip
BY THE WAY...
Grr
THE ONE YOU HAVE SOMETHING AGAINST?
IS IT NEREIS... OR IS IT NEFEE?
WHICH ONE IS IT?


ゴォ
ゴォ
ゴォ
At that exact same moment, in the strategy room of the Aptic Defense Fleet ship Sukakau
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF COOLANT?!
WHAT?!
AND CONSIDERING WE HAVE TO ENGAGE IN BATTLE IN THE DADEOCKS
ENGINES DOWN TO SEVENTY PERCENT OF OPTIMAL

AREN'T ANY WHAT?
THERE AREN'T ANY.
SEIMEI SOSU.
CONTACT OUR SEIMEI SOSU THERE.
THERE'S LOTS OF WATER THAT CAN BE USED AS COOLANT DOWN ON APTIC III!
THAT IS TROUBLING.
WHAT I FIND TROUBLING IS THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
THE APTIC PLANETARY SYSTEM STILL HASN'T SURRENDERED TO US
APTIC III, THEREFORE, STILL, BELONGS TO OUR ENEMY.
WE'RE DEFENDING THE APTIC SORD ITSELF!!! ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?!
THEN WHAT ARE WE DEFENDING OUT HERE?
YOU ARE THE GRAHALEL OF THIS REGION.

IT WOULD BE QUICKER TO GET SUPPLIES THROUGH FWAS FROM OUR HOME TERRITORY.
SIMPLY DRAWING THE WATER OUT WOULD BE INCREDIBLY TAXING AND INEFFICIENT
MORE PROBLEMATIC IS THE FACT THAT THE WATER ON APTIC III LIES AT THE BOTTOM OF A GRAVITY WELL, BENEATH A DENSE ATMOSPHERE.
SOMETHING WE NEED RIGHT IN FRONT OF US AMD WE CAN'T REACH IT.
IT IS A SHAME.
WE'RE NOT EQUIPPED FOR SUCH AN OPERATION
WHAT ABOUT TAKING MOISTURE STRAIGHT OUT OF THE AIR?
DO WE HAVE TO DRAW UPON LIQUID WATER FOR COOLANT?
I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING WE DON'T NEED, NEFEE.
I'D THINK SUCH AN EXPERIENCE WOULD BE QUITE FAMILIAR TO YOU...
...NEREIS.

The First Assault Unit of the 1058th Battalion
...FOR AS LONG AS SEVENTY-TWO HOURS
UNTIL OUR MAIN FLEET ARRIVES WE'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH AN ENEMY THAT OUTNUMBERS US TENFOLD.
HERE WE ARE NOW.
OUR MISSION IS CLEAR.
DESTROY THE ENEMY IN FRONT OF US.
LET NONE LIVE.
ANY QUES-TIONS?

BRING IT NOW, PLEASE.
GOOD.
LEAVE HALF IN YOUR GLASS.
WHEN YOU COME BACK TO ME ALIVE, WE WILL ALL FINISH THESE DRINKS.
HERE'S TO YOUR SAFE RETURN.
CHEERS!

Six hours before the arrival of the Main Fleet...
IF YOU NEED TO BE ALONE, JUST SAY SO.
IF YOU WANT TO STAY...
...JUST SAY SO.
SOMOWAS...
WOULD YOU LIKE SOMETHING TO DRINK?
YES, PLEASE.

EVEN AS A CHILD, I'D NEVER HAVE GUESSED
..THAT I'D WITNESS SOMETHING SO SPECTACULAR.
I KNEW I WOULD.
IT WAS DECIDED EVEN BEFORE I ENTERED THE LABULE.
YET, I DID NOT ANTICIPATE BEING THE MANOWAS OF A GEL.
I WANTED TO WEAR THE ALPHA MABRAL OF A FRODE.

IF THIS OPERATION SUCCEEDS
..MAYBE THE HYDE SYSTEM WILL BE RECAPTURED BY THE FURYU BAL.
THAT IS TRUE
YOU HAVE A LONG CAREER AHEAD OF YOU I'M SURE IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE YOU HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY.
TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN EVER GO BACK THERE.
WHAT WILL YOU DO IF YOUR LIBYUN ARE RESTORED?
MY FATHER WASN'T EXACTLY POPULAR FOR WHAT HE DID.
SOME-ONE ELSE MAY HAVE TO BE THE DRIL
LIFE IS FULL OF GIVE AND TAKE IT'S UP TO YOU TO MAKE CHOICES
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO RUN THE LIBYUN, YOU SHOULD RENOUNCE YOUR TITLE ALTOGETHER.
BUT I DON'T WANT THE PEOPLE TO THINK THAT I'M HIDING FROM THEM.
OH, STOP IT!
ASSUMING A SUNE IS YOUR DUTY.
UGH.

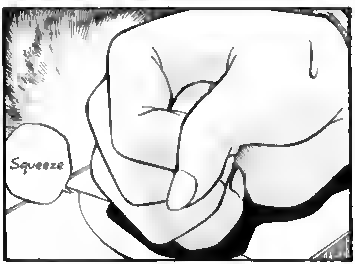
THE ABH GO THROUGH THREE STAGES OF LIFE BEFORE BECOMING AN ADULT
YOU AND I HAVE ONLY JUST EMBARKED UPON THE FIRST STAGE
AND THE COURSE TO ADULTHOOD IS INEVITABLE DON'T FIGHT IT
THREE STAGES OF LIFE?
FIRST YOU ARE A RODAIL, THEN A MERCHANT...
WHAT'S THE LAST ONE?
YOU DON'T KNOW?
NO.
IT IS CRUCIAL
WHAT?
BE A PARENT.

ガガガ
ガ
ガ
ガ
FWIP
FWIP
FWOOSH
FWOOSH

ESTIMATE THIRTY MINUTES TO ARRIVAL OF ENEMY FLEET!
BATTLE PLAN COMPLETED!
DEPLOYED SATES GOL HOKSAS HAVE BEEN PLACED ON STANDBY.
FSSH

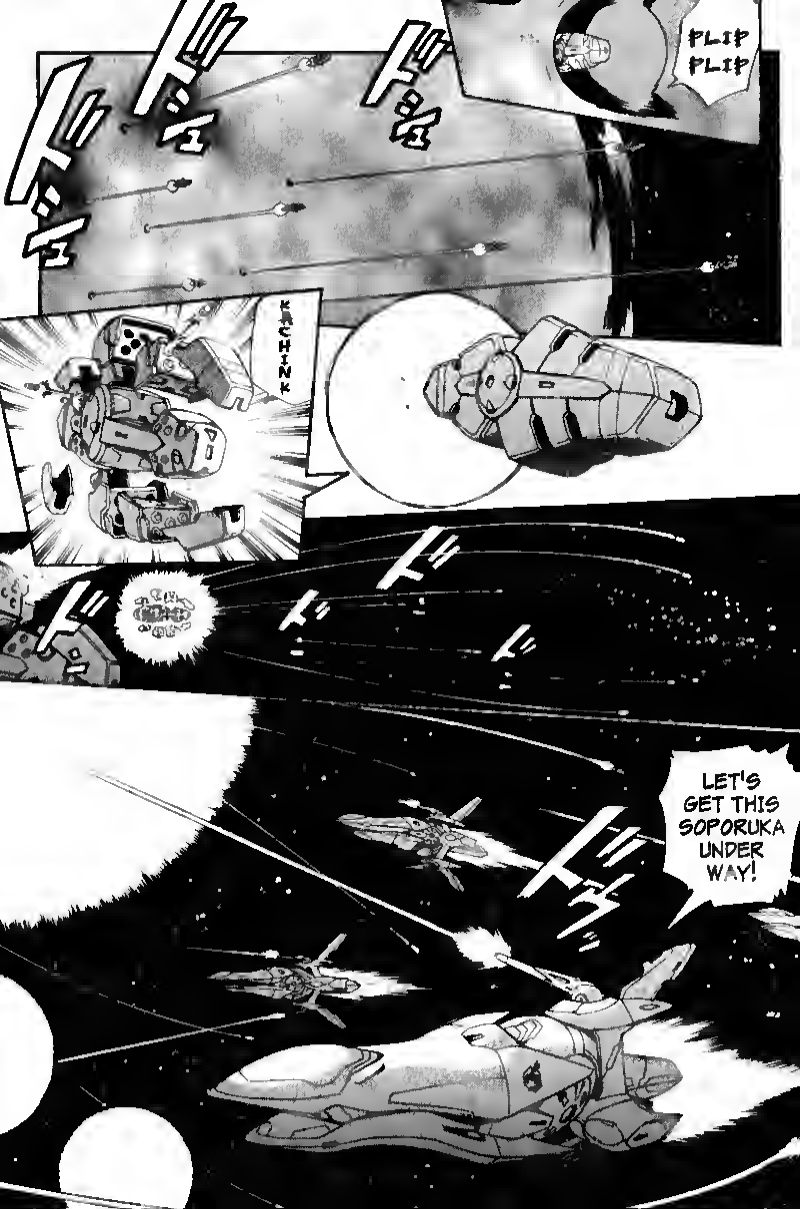
SEVEN MINUTES!
TIME OF ARRIVAL?
THE ENEMY HAS LAUNCHED SEVERAL FRASAS... MOST LIKELY HOKSAS!
GRAHALEL. INCOMING TRANS-MISSION FROM THE KOOSURURU.
ISSUE THIS ORDER TO THE FLEET!
LAUNCH ALL HOKSAS DIRECTLY INTO THE SORD!
THEY SURE TOOK THE INITIATIVE, DIDN'T THEY?
Blip
Blip

Blip
Blip
Blip
Blip
Blip

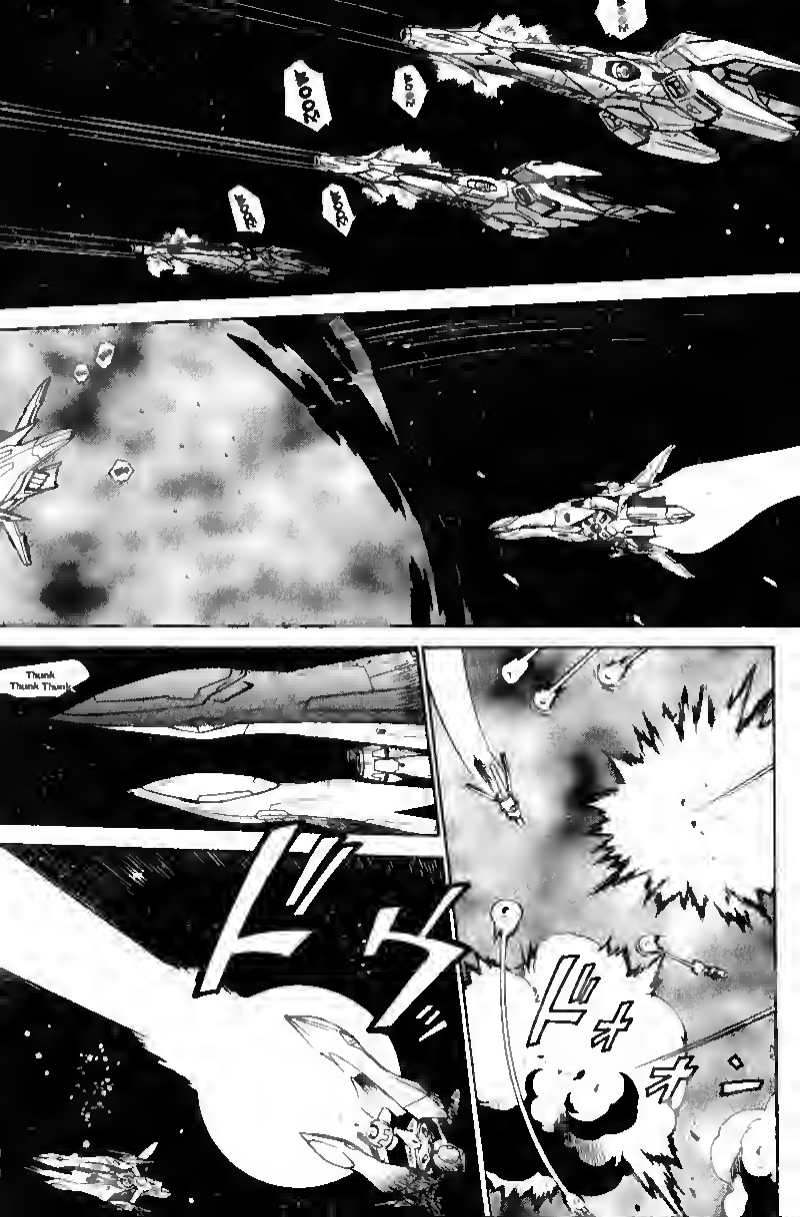

Squeeze

IT HAS BEGUN.
Seal Basrol!

THE ENEMY MINES ARE CROSSING THROUGH AS WELL.
ALL HOKSAS HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE SORD!


FLIP FLIP
KACHINK
LET'S GET THIS SOPORUKA UNDER WAY!

FASHOOM
FASHOOM
KACHINK
KACHUNK
ARMOR BREACH ON THE STARBOARD SIDE!
SEALING OFF COMPARTMENTS FOUR, ELEVEN AND FIFTEEN!
THE TEMPERATURE IS RISING ON THE PORT SIDE!
BRACE FOR THE SECOND WAVE!
THE PATROL SHIPS ARE PROVIDING COVER WITH NUCLEAR FUSION SUBYUT!


ZOOM
ZOOM
ZOOM
ZOOM
Thunk
Thunk Thunk
ドゥ
ドゥオーン

THIRD WAVE!

PERHAPS YOU CAN IMPART TO THEM THAT TACTICAL ADVICE
YOU'D THINK THEY'D SAVE SOME FOR THE MAIN FLEET!
JUST HOW MANY HOKSAS CAN THE ENEMY THROW AT US?!
BUT IF THE ENEMY PUSHES THROUGH, WE'LL NEED THEIR STRENGTH.
I PITY ANYONE CAUGHT IN THE ENEMY'S MINE BARRAGE THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO
WHAT ABOUT THE GEL?
RELAY THIS TO ALL LESUI.
LAUNCH THE HOKSAS COUNTER-STRIKE.
VERY WELL ASSEMBLE THE RET.
HMM. THAT SOUNDS REASONABLE
WHAT?!
NEREIS, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO LATE

Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep!
EKURYUA, FIRE FOUR AND SEVEN!
SHOOM
ドォォ
ドォォ
ゴォォォ
オォ

THE KIDROIL HAS BEEN DESTROYED
THEY'RE A DEVIOUS LOT!
THAT'S NOT A NORMAL FRAGMENT!
IT WAS A WARHEAD! IT MUST HAVE BEEN TIMED TO GO OFF!
NO!

TELL THEM TO FIRE AT ANYTHING THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS...
...AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, STAY AHEAD OF THE GEL!
FOR THE MOMENT, LET'S PULL BACK THE GEL AND BRING THE LESUI FORWARD.

ゴゴゴ
ゴ!
ゴゴ

WE CAN STILL FIGHT!
BUT... SALE!
All ships fall back temporarily
Since the Ret pulled forward our front line is stronger
This s only a temporary retreat
There'll be plenty to fight later
Right now get out of there!
WILL DO.
CALM YOURSELF
Squee
Squeee

!
Someone
Shake
Shake
CHOMP
TASTE GOOD?
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE SOMETHING COLD AND SMOOTH, BUT..
..IF YOU PREFER YOUR HAND..

YOU SHALL CEASE AT ONCE!
BUT THAT ARM IS AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER IN ALL THIS
うぅ～
I CAN UNDERSTAND BEING OVERCOME WITH BLOODLUST DURING A BATTLE.
YOU KNOW...
DO YOU HONESTLY THINK I'M EATING MY OWN HAND?!
MANOWAS!
IT'S LIKE I HAD MY HAND IN THE COOKIE JAR...
KWAP
OKAY..
LET ME GIVE YOU A HAND WITH THIS!
STOP IT, JINTO!
...AND WORKING IN THOSE GONE! CAN BE FAIRLY UNCOMFORTABLE
THE DANGER HAS PASSED FOR THE MOMENT...
I HOPE YOU DON'T FIND MY DIRECTNESS DISARMING, BUT...
...CAN THE SASHU HAVE PERMISSION TO GET OUT OF THEIR GONE!?

BUT WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "DISARMING"?
I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT
PERMISSION GRANTED
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
OH...
...I WANTED TO GIVE FEKTODAI SAZOIL LIN A "BITING CHANCE" FOR SURVIVAL
SURP

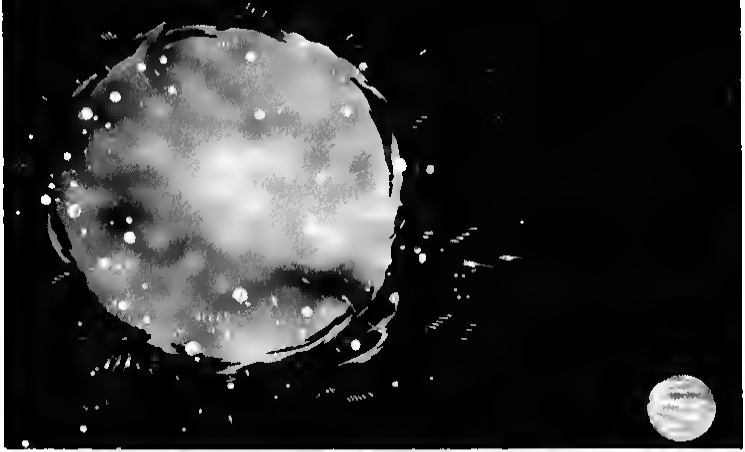
Chapter 8
Escape
DUGSANS

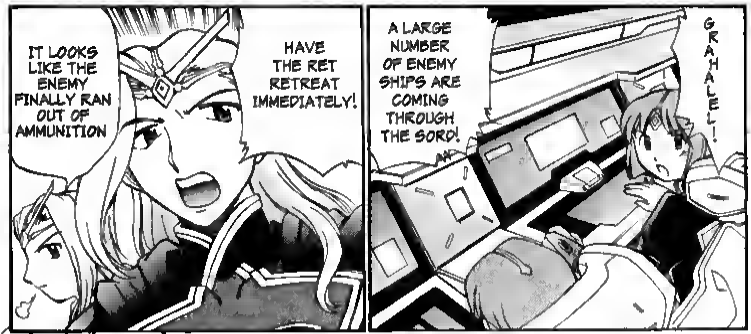
ゴォォン
ゴォォン
ゴォォン
THE DRIL HYDAL IS ON THE SAME SHIP, YES?
THE FEIA BEL IS THERE NOW.
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL MAKE IT TO THE APTIC SORD IN TIME AFTER ALL.
YES.
IF THEY WERE TO DIE, I'D LOSE A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF SLEEP.
LET'S PRAY THE TWO OF THEM ARE STILL ALIVE.

Twenty hours after the commencement of battle...

ZZZZZZ
MRRRW

DO YOU THINK I CAN HANDLE THIS SHIP UNTIL THE BATTLE'S OVER?
DIAHO?
Mrrrow!
IS THAT SO?
I DON'T TRUST YOUR OPINION.
Fu
Fu




GRAHALEL!
A LARGE NUMBER OF ENEMY SHIPS ARE COMING THROUGH THE SORD!
HAVE THE RET RETREAT IMMEDIATELY!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE ENEMY FINALLY RAN OUT OF AMMUNITION

EVEN IF THEY HAVE USED UP MOST OF THEIR HOKSAS...
...THEY STILL HAVE PLENTY OF SPYUTO!
I KNOW THAT, NEREIS.

THIS IS THE BATTLE WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
Until now, we've been relying on these tedious hoksas and lesui
It's time to bring in the Gel
If you can't keep up, I'll take it as a personal insult
Junto
Rumble
Rumble

SIX ENEMY SHIPS DEAD AHEAD!
CONCENTRATE FIRE ON ENEMY SIX FIRST!
AFTER THAT, WE'LL SWITCH TARGETS!
KREEEEN
ENEMY ONE WILL BE NEXT ON THE LIST.
UNDERSTOOD!!
UNDERSTOOD!
Six versus four, huh.

FIRE!!

ALL HANDS, PRESS THE ATTACK!
SO! THEY STILL HAVE SOME FIGHT IN THEM, DO THEY?

IT'S LIKE REI DREL...
HMPH.

Glare
ONLY IT'S NOT A GAME ANYMORE!
Now we're taking the upper hand!
Hit them again!!!
ENEMY ONE IS RETREATING TOWARD THE APTIC SORD!

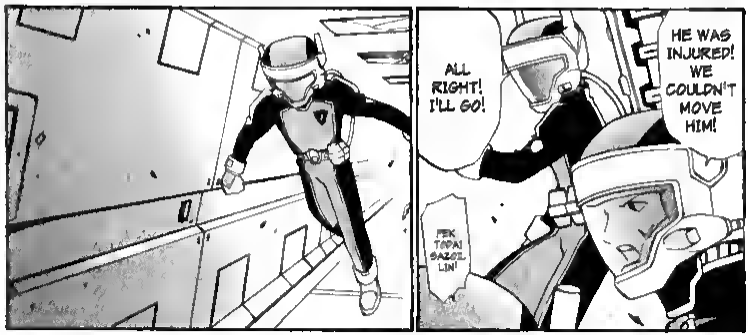
ALL HANDS, BRACE FOR IMPACT!
YOU'RE GOING TO FIRE AT ME?!

ドオオオ
ゴゴゴゴゴ
THIS IS BAD!
LAFIEL!
THERE ARE HULL BREACHES STRETCHING FROM SECTORS TWO TO 17 AND THE MAIN CORRIDOR HAS DEPRESSURIZED!
EXPLOSION IN SECTOR 23! FIRE RESPONSE SYSTEMS HAVE FAILED!
TEMPERATURES RISING ALL OVER THE SHIP!
WE'RE GOING TO LOSE THE ARMOR IF THIS KEEPS UP!
THE LASER CANNON IS NOT RESPONDING!

REQUEST PERMISSION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE FRONT...
BOMOWAS
Rowas Abriell
What's your current status?
Permission granted Basrail
It'll be a shame to lose yo!
Fwump
ALL HANDS, ABANDON SHIP!
PREPARE THE CALICKE FOR IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE.
Zip

.....

WE LEFT WESASH PAVERYUA BEHIND?
WHAT?!


ALL RIGHT! I'LL GO!
HE WAS INJURED! WE COULDN'T MOVE HIM!
FEK TAPAI SAZOL LIN!

!
GOOD
NOW I'LL...
THE WESASH ESCAPED IN THE EMERGENCY WEKO.
AH!
SHOOM!

IS EVERYONE ABOARD?
WE'RE STILL WAITING FOR FEKTODAI SAZOIL LIN.
HE WENT BACK TO RESCUE WESASH PAVERYUA, BUT I THINK SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG
HIS SABUT HAS MALFUNCTIONED, SO WE CAN'T TELL WHERE HE IS
HE'S PROBABLY IN SECTOR ONE
...THAT IS, IF HE'S STILL ALIVE.
AND THE WESASH?
IT LOOKS LIKE HE ESCAPED IN AN EMERGENCY EKO

THAT'S AN ORDER!
BUT...
TAKE COMMAND OF THE CALICKE.
VERY WELL!
I'M GOING AFTER JINTO.
WE HAVE FIVE MINUTES!
MANOWAS!
PLEASE HURRY!
AND I THANK YOU FOR THAT!
THEN I SUPPOSE I HAVE NO CHOICE
OF COURSE!
I WILL!
WE'LL ESCAPE IN A WEKO! JUST PICK US UP OUT THERE!

I GOTTA STOP DOING THINGS I'M NOT TRAINED TO DO.
TRY TO BE THE HERO AND END UP THE VICTIM.
STORY OF MY LIFE.
NO. THAT WILL PUT SOMEONE ELSE IN DANGER.
WILL THEY COME BACK TO RESCUE ME?
AND THIS THING'S NOT GOING TO HELP ME AGAINST THE VACUUM.
ALL THE REMAINING WEKO ARE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHIP.

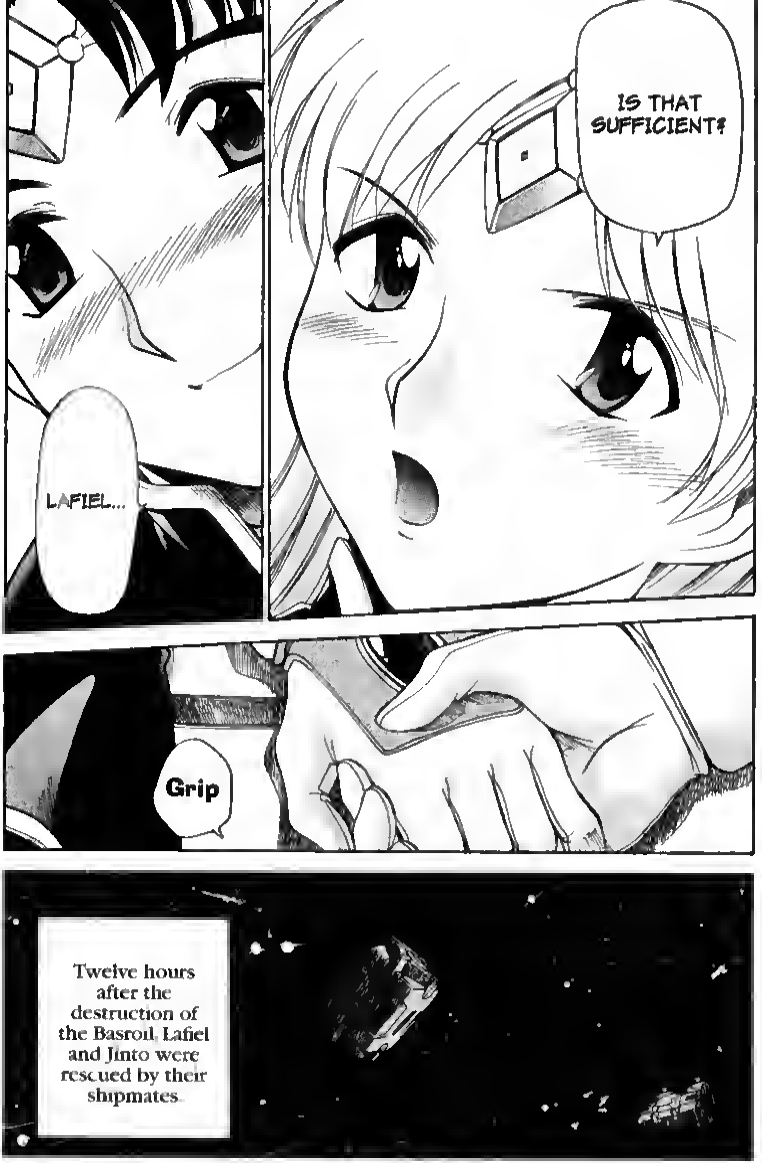
WHAT TO DO?
DA DA DA DA!
WHOA!
Grab
Thunk
!

LAFIEL!
WE ONLY HAVE A MINUTE
UGH! LET'S GO!
OH, YEAH! THANK YOU.
KISS
WHAT?
YOU COULD HAVE DIED?
YEAH
ARE YOU OKAY, JINTO?
PEW
WELL... YA KINDA BRUISED ME WITH THE HELMET.

ARE YOU THERE, JINTO?
I GUESS SO.
Pilot

AHH...
THIS IS MUCH MORE ROOMY THAN THE UNDERTAKER'S COFFINS
WE STILL ONLY HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF AIR
DO YOU THINK SOBAASH WILL RESCUE US BEFORE THEN?
OF COURSE SHE WILL!
WHY ARE YOU ANGRY?
I'M NOT ANGRY!
HEE
Glare...
IS SOME-THING FUNNY?
NO.
IT'S JUST THAT WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY, I FEEL COMFORTABLE.
THAT'S WEIRD!

REMEMBER WHEN YOU SAID THAT NO ONE WOULD CARE IF YOU DIED?
HUH?
YEAH.
I'D CARE.

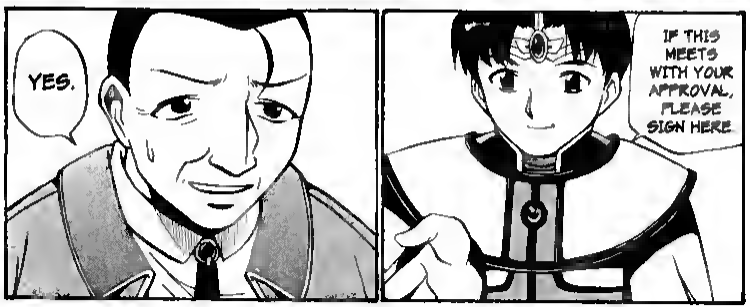

IS THAT SUFFICIENT?
LAFIEL...
Grip
Twelve hours after the destruction of the Basroil, Lafiel and Jinto were rescued by their shipmates.

THE ENEMY IS RETREATING.
OUR MAIN FLEET HAS FINALLY ARRIVED.
ゴゴ
ゴ
ゴ
TELL THE BYURU VENA TO MAINTAIN THAT SAME FORMATION
SEND THE BYURUA KASNA FORWARD.
FLEETS TWO AND FOUR, CLOSE RANKS AND TAKE THE LEAD EVERYONE ELSE, FALL IN TO PROTECT THEIR BACKS

The First Fleet
ゴゴゴゴゴ
A MESSAGE TO THE SOV GRAM
ALL SHIPS, PREPARE HOKSAT-EYOX!
AFTER LAUNCHING ALL HOKSAS SEPARATE INTO INDIVIDUAL FRASAS!
SHE LOOKS SO HAPPY.
Smile
ALL RIGHT, "GROUND SWINE" AND "MUD TURTLES," PREPARE TO MEET YOUR DOOM!
NOW!
Sigh

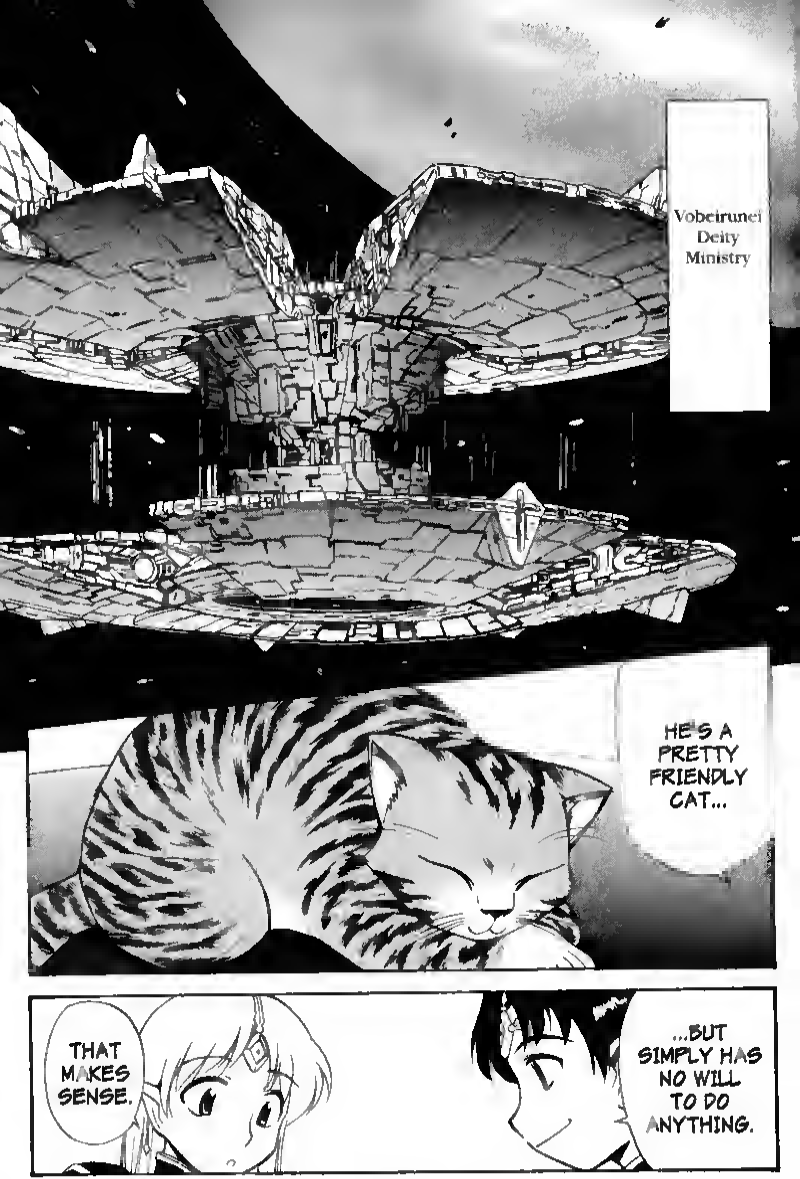
With the arrival of the main fleet, an Abh victory was secured.
Chapter 9
The Shape of Bonds
KRES SUTTON
The enemy fleet fled toward Wimpel and the Aptic Star System announced its surrender to the Labule.

THE APTIC STAR SYSTEM AND SURROUNDING TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED MANKIND SHALL BECOME A PART OF THE FURYU BAL GREL GOL BAL.
.AND SHALL THEREFORE FALL UNDER THE LAWS OF THE FURYU BAL AS A SUBJECT TERRITORY.
IF THE FURYU BAL MAKES ANY DEMANDS OUTSIDE OF ITS OWN LAWS...
...YOUR SEIMEI SOSU HAVE THE RIGHT TO NULLIFY THEM AS WRITTEN HERE.


YES.
IF THIS MEETS WITH YOUR APPROVAL, PLEASE SIGN HERE.

I DIDN'T REALIZE I COMMANDED SUCH CITIZENS OF NOTE.
THE FEIA BEL PARYUN AND RONYU DRIL HYDAL?
IS THAT THE DRIL HYDAL WHO CONQUERED LAND WITH THE IMPERIAL FAMILY?
TELL ME YOUR SECRET. HOW ARE YOU SO BEMUSED BY YOUR IGNORANCE?
I'M SURE THERE ARE MANY THINGS OUT THERE YOU DON'T REALIZE.
AND THIS MAN COMMANDS A SHIP IN THE MOST POWERFUL MILITARY FLEET IN THE GALAXY
.....
VERY LITTLE. BUT I LOVE MAKING UP STORIES ABOUT REAL PEOPLE
MAYBE IT'S NOT YOUR MEMORY.. MAYBE IT'S YOUR INFORMATION
HEY, NEREIS
WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE DRIL HYDAL?

A month later Lafiel was relieved as acting Kufaha of the Aptic territory
One of the native Somei Sosu, Makrit Taras, was elected by the masses to take on the duties of that office
With the Aptic System securely controlled by the Labule, Lafiel was permitted some time away from her military duties... time for which she was most graciously thankful, the heavy burden of her office lifted, if only for a short time.


Vobeirunei Deity Ministry
HE'S A PRETTY FRIENDLY CAT...
...BUT SIMPLY HAS NO WILL TO DO ANYTHING.
THAT MAKES SENSE.

I PREFER TO THINK OF THE TWO OF US AS EASY-GOING.
THAT'S A BIT HARSH.
AND NO ONE IS LAZIER THAN YOU.
A CAT WILL SOMETIMES ADOPT THE PERSONALITY OF ITS OWNER.
HEY, HE'LL SHOW A LOT OF FIGHT IF YOU GIVE HIM A BATH.
ゴゴ
WHY DON'T EITHER OF YOU SHOW SOME FIGHT?
AH YES, THE TWO PACIFISTS, GLIDING THROUGH THE WAR WITH NARY A CARE IN THE WORLD.
READY TO POUNCE WITH CLAWS--
SEE? NOW THAT'S THE FIERCE LOOK OF A WARRIOR..
Mrr
Mrr
Mrr
OKAY.
YOU KNOW ...
IF HE DAMAGES THE FURNITURE, THE MANOWAS WILL FILE A COMPLAINT AGAINST YOU.

THEN I SUPPOSE YOU TWO REALLY ARE DIFFERENT.
IS THAT RIGHT?
HE MAY BE SMALL, BUT HE'S DEFINITELY A FIGHTER.
BUT BELIEVE YOU ME, HE'D TEAR HIS WAY TO FREEDOM.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D...
...BE SO KIND.
WHEN YOU'RE THREATENED, YOUR EYES GLAZE OVER AND YOUR BODY TURNS TO JELLY.
SO SHALL WE GO...
JINTO?
Boarding of the Basroli may begin
Docking complete

IT'S LIKE RETURNING HOME.
YEAH.
YES, THE EXACT SAME DESIGN.
IT LOOKS THE SAME AS THE OLD BASKOIL.

WELCOME BACK, MANOWAS
THANK YOU, ALM RODAIL.
FEKTODAI SAZOIL LIN, WELCOME ABOARD.
THE SASHU SKEL HAS BEEN WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN.
Fssh

Mrrrow
HEY! WELCOME BACK!
Ha ha
WHACK!
YE.
YEAH

I'M GOING TO LEAVE DIAHO WITH THE CLYUVE FAMILY AT THE AROSH.
HUH...
SO THIS WILL BE OUR LAST TRIP TOGETHER.
I THINK I SHOULD GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO SAY GOODBYE TO EVERYONE.
PUR
SOMEONE ONCE TOLD ME THAT TAKING A CAT INTO BATTLE ISN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA!
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO BLAME ME FOR THIS.
NO! OF COURSE NOT!

はははははは
Click
YES
ALM RODAIL... THE BANNER

THIS TIME, I FIGHT HARDER.
I'M COUNTING ON ALL OF YOU.
Turn

PREPARE FOR DEPARTURE!
YES, MA'AM!

Mmm
Mmm
Wag
Wag

Banner of the Stars

The Shape of Bonds

The End

SEIKAI TRILOGY

ABH DICTIONARY

Abh a race of humans genetically engineered to live in the vacuum of space. Abh have twice the lifespan of unmodified humans, blue hair, pale skin and heightened brain functions. *adj* having the quality of Abh

alek lead ship

alm rodail navigator

alpha mabral uniform

Arosh capital

Bomowas Hecto-Commander, an Abh military rank equivalent to a Fleet Captain

byuru fleet

byuru gona Abh Fourth Fleet

byuru kasna Abh First Fleet under Frode Spoor

byuru luna Abh Fifth Fleet

byuru mata Abh Second Fleet

byuru vena Abh Third Fleet

calicke small transport ship

dadeocks normal space, as opposed to Fwas

daz the vacuum of space and home of the Abh

dril an Abh noble, equivalent to a Count

Dril Hydal Count Hyde, Jinto

dugsans escape

egyulf electromagnetic cannon

fasenzel member of the royal family

feia bel viscountess

feia grahalel Royal Commander, equivalent to a Commander-in-Chief

feia laltonel Royal Highness

fektodai aviator

fektodai sazoil Supply officer

fektodai skem line wing aviator

fitlashos first blood

frasas space-time clusters, usually carrying ships of mine (hoksas)

frode admiral

Furyu Bal the Empire

Furyu Bal Grel Gol Bal Humankind Empire Abh

Fwas planespace

gahol bridge

garyush baronial residence

gel an assault ship

grel gol bal Humankind

gol lyutcos space-time separation

gol putalos space-time fusion

gonel pressure suits

gosk vassals

grahalel supreme commander

guragaf sov headquarters

gyuk lobrot Remembrance Dinner

hoksas mines

hoksateyox mine barrage

kadbyuru squadrons

kasna first

kres sutton the shape of bonds

kufalia territorial governor and ambassador

kufazet operation

Kufazet Leniv Operation Phantom Flame

Labule Abb Star Forces

lafek gunana spectactular insanity, an affliction suffered by the Bebaus family

laishakal wek sodal aptical Battlefield at the Aptic Gate

lakney hoka orbital station

lekle senior navigator

lenyu ranks

lenyuju antiproton cannon

lesul Patrol Ship

libyun territories held by a dril

longia transport shuttles

lope a sliced Abh fruit similar to a lemon

lyum baroness

manowas captain of a gel, a military position

nahen surface world

nahenud lander (pejorative term)

nif duchess

onyu idiot

opsei main engines

pelia transport ship

rei drel an Abb contest that resembles jousting

ret battle ships

ro starship hatch

rodail officer

rojyu lady

ronyu a term of respect reserved for nobility

Rowas Deca-Commander, an Abh military rank

ryuf baron

sabut pressure suit helmet

salel suyum ashal squadron commander

sashu crew

sashu skel Second Aviator

sates gol hoksa space-time mines

seimei sosu territorial representatives

shutium Deity Ministry

soporuka battle

sord gate into or out of planespace

Sord Aptical Aptic Gate

sov battle unit

sov gram Main Fleet

soyala green tea

soyasa black tea

spenu labural Fleet Admiral

spunej Empress

subyut nuclear fusion canon shots

sune noble title

sunesbuga ship's defense shield

supmeld a pacifist philosophy held by the Federation of Hania

syuf ashal gona fourth assault unit

syuf ashal kasna first assault unit

spyuto nuclear fusion bombs

teal nom peach tea

usem scouts

vok lanyu laser cannons

wass kasalel chief of staff

weko escape pod

wesash rank of Crewman

yadbiru squadron

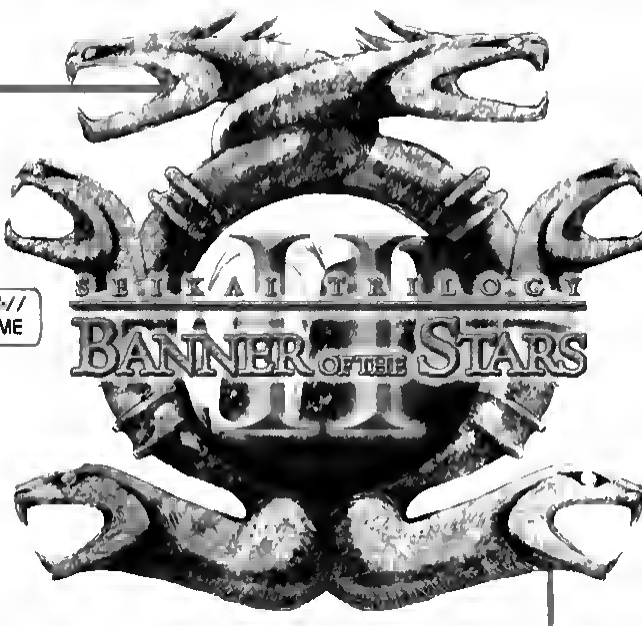
yadbiru ashal battleship squadron

yadbiru usem reconnaissance squadron

yalulug prince

yazu facility

//PREVIEW-//
NEXT VOLUME



With the success of Operation Phantom Flame, the Abh Empire has found itself in control of vast amounts of territory once controlled by its enemy, the United Mankind As the Empire begins a new operation to mop up the remaining resistance, Lafiel and Jinto find themselves placed in the role of Territorial Ambassadors on the planet of Lobnas II. The Abh find dealing with surface worlds distasteful enough, but complicating matters further is the fact that Lobnas II is a prison planet whose population disagrees on the best future for their newly liberated world When the United Mankind returns in an attempt to reclaim Lobnas, an angry revolt leaves Jinto stranded in the chaos, leaving Lafiel in the unenviable position of choosing between Jinto, the man who has been her savior and friend for so many years, and saving her ship from an encroaching enemy fleet